جوردان تايمز بومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية والراي،

KUWAII (AP) — Kitwait's emir, Sheikh Jaher Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on Wednesday received an invitation from Saviet leader Mikhail Gorhachev to visit the Soviet Union, foreign minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad said. He told reporters the invitation was relayed by Mikhail S. Kapitsa, director of the Oriental Studies busitate, attached to the Soviet Academy of Science. "Frot. Espitus expressed the desire of the Soviet leadership to see the emir pay a visit to the Soviet Union as soon as possible," he said. The emir would be the first leader from the Arab states of the southern Gulf region to visit Moscow. But among the six states grouped in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Knwait has had the longest diplomatic exchanges with the Soviet Union with whom it cooperates in the economic and military fields. Several visits by efficials who lead these sectors have been exchanged. The other GCC states include Sandi Arabia and Bahrain who still have no relations with Moscow, as well as Qutar, Oman and the United Arah Emirates. Shelkh Sabah said that the Soviet visitor was discussing with the Kuwaiti leadership Gorbachev's policies of restructuring in current regional and

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AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 18-19, 1990, JUMADA AL THANI 21-22, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Sandi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

## His Majesty King Hussein Wechsesiey beids takes with Iraqi President Saddam Hassein (Petra photo) Iraqi leader on surprise visit

AMMAN (J.T.) - Iraqi President Saddem Hussein arrived here on a previously apannounced visit Wednesday and held private talks with His Majesty King Hussein. No details were available on the two leaders'

talks but it was believed that major topics for discussion were Iraq's latest initiative for peace with Iran, developments in the Arab scene and efforts for peace in the Middle East.

## ACC premiers set summit agenda, recommendations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The heads of government of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries Wednesday concluded a meeting in Bashdad after reviewing the agenda for an ACC symmit to be held in Amman next month and recommendations that will be presented to the ACC feeders during the summit. The accorda included draft agreements on cooperation in the fields of science, technology, tourism, industry, planning, petroleum, gas, local administration, municipal affairs. health affairs, metrology, civil aviation, land transport and reli-

side to the ministerial meetings

gious affairs. Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister and head of the Iraqi Taha Yasin Ramadan, noted in a speech that the ACC's achievements during the past 11 months were "great and something to be prosed of.

Ramadan added that the next year would witness the implementation of agreements the ACC countries have concluded.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran welcomed the ACC leaders who will come to Amman in February to attend the next summit, He siso expressed satisfaction with the Baghdad meetings, which were crowned with "serious and fruitfal work, and good inten-

North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani said the unity of the two Yemens was "a

step to attain comprehensive Arab unity."

Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki expressed satisfaction with the agreements reached in Baghdad noting that they reflect the "spirit of cooperation and cor-

- Iraqi Gil Minister Isam Abdul Rahim Chalabi met Wednesday with Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Taher. The discussions dealt with means to boister bilateral relations and the preparations for the second meeting of the ACC ministers of petroleum

Badran and the delegation which accompanied him to Baghdad returned to Amman late

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Israeli and Egyptian leaders held separate talks Wednesday with U.S. officials about peace efforts in the Middle East amid reports that a three-way meeting could take place next month.

would like a meeting that would include himself and the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel as the first step towards organising elections among Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank

Egypt is acting as a channel for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which the Israelis want to exclude from the peace Baker as saying the trilateral meeting he has been pushing for could take place in Washington

In a telephone conversation

Israeli diplomacy.

# King: Israel implementing 'Jordan-is - solution' plan

Ry Lamis K. Andoni Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein warned Wednesday that Israel had started implementing its scheme of transforming Jordan into a substitute homeland for the Palestinians in a bid to avert a just settlement of the Palestinian problem.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the King warned that recent incidents on the ceasefire line served the Israeli scheme.

The King quashed fears expressed by some citizens over the future of parliamentary life in Jordan by implying that he was committed to upholding and maintaining the changes in the Kingdom and had no intention whatsover of exercising his option of dissolving the newly-elected Lower House of Parliament if it conflicted with his policies and

King Hussein described as "serious and dangerous" a recent statement made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that Israel needs to retain the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to settle thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants expected to arrive in the next three years,

"I warn of this serious impending danger which all of us in the Arab World should be aware of. he said. "Whom will these thousands of immigrants replace, and what will happen to those who will be replaced by these new arrivals?" he asked in a clear reference to the strong possibility of that Israel will resort to forced expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied territories to make room for the immigrants.

Recent reports have indicated that hundreds of Palestinians are ferced to leave the occurried territories to the East Bank. An investigation by a local journalist has disclosed the Israeli occupation authorities have been denying the return of hundreds of Palestinian residents to the occupied terri-

"The daily Israeli practices against our people in the occupied territories, the expulsion of Palestinians and the Israeli intention to settle the expected immigrants all fit into the same Israeli scheme of Jordan is the solution," the King said.

King Hussein, however, seemed to emphasise Israeli plans to settle Jewish immigrants in the occupied territories as the most dangerous aspect of the Zionisi state's scheme, supported by many right-wing Israeli politicians, to transform Jordan as a substitute homeland for the Palestinians.

"In the Arab World we should very closely watch what is taking place and prepare ourselves to commont the situation," he said. "This is not a threat to Jordan only; it threatens the depth of the Arab World and the Palestinian people's national rights,"

Arafat threatens to quit



"Any Arab move should measure

Asked if he was seeking specific Arab action to confront the threats, be expressed the view that there was a need for a thorough reassessment of the Arab position and strategy.

ing of an Arab summit but only after

up to the magnitude of the challenge and problem," King Hussein said. The King disclosed that he intends to hold extensive consultations with other Arab leaders on the situation "as soon as I will have the oppor-

"I believe that we as leaders of the

Arab World must reconsider everything," he said. He added that this reassessment might require the hold-

going on with our resistance to

the Israeli occupation... but it is a

challenge to all Arabs which we

should confront," Arafat told the

Israel needs to retain the West

Bank and Gaza to settle an influx

"For a large immigration we

need the land of Israel, a great

and strong Israel," Shamir said.

"We will need a lot of place to

The U.S. State Department

The U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv

"We were expecting (the

roadblocks) and knew it wonldn't

be easy," an Interior Ministry

has contacted the Israeli govern-

said Tuesday it had asked Israel

to explain Shamir's comment.

Soviet Union.

absorb everybody."

Hussein blamed Israeli intransigence for the deadlock in the Middle East peace process and said that the Arab World should actively support the key role of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in any efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli con-"It is our collective responsibility in the Arab World to put the process back to its normal course by insisting on the PLO's participation as the principal party," he said in an implicit reference to attempts to marginalise the PLO's role in the peace process. The King criticised Israel's insistence that it should have the right to approve or disapprove Palestinian peace negotiators as a precondition to endorse the idea of a direct Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. "It is absolutely unacceptable and

the PLO" as the sole legitimate represcutative of the Palestinian people, he not and cannot afford to make more political concessions. Boston Globe earlier this week the King said that the PLO would under-

mine its constituency if it made more political concessions in the peace pro-"The PLO has given everything it could give... it cannot be asked to give any more," he told the Jordan Times. "It has not lost anything in the

illogical for Israel to insist on the right

to choose whom it will talk to from

the Palestinian side," King Hussein

said. "The only address we know is

He reiterated that the PLO should

In an interview with the American

"I am confident that the PLO is fully aware of its responsibilities and my position is to support the PLO and (PLO Chairman Yasser) Arafat in any step they decide." he said.

process but it cannot give more," he

King Hussein indicated, however, that he believed that preventing the Israeli scheme to turn Jordan into a substitute Palestinian homeland should be one of the top priorities of the PLO as well as in any future joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves or Arab strategy.

Shamir declared Monday that King Hussein described Jordan's relations with the PLO as excellent and characterised by mutual trust, of Jewish immigrants from the "which was consolidated by (Jordan's) decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West

Bank" in July 1988. Asked if the recent development in relations with the PLO would be translated into specific joint action,

King Hussein said: "I have discussed this with Palestimian President Yasser Arafat when he was here (last month), and I had referred to the subject during our previous meetings in Baghdad and Sanaa, and we fully agree on total coordination," King Hussein said.

However, he said, the idea of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to peace talks was not revived and even if it was suggested, Jordan

would abide by whatever decision the PLO takes on the issue. "This has not been suggested to us and we absolutely refuse to be part of such a formula unless the PLO asked us to and in a way that safeguards the

national rights of the Palestinian peopie," he said. King Hussein said that the recent

dramatic developments in Eastern Europe had shifted international

due deliberations among Arab attention from the Middle East but that the urgency of the situation in the Middle East warranted that world attention should not be moved from

"I think what is going in Eastern Europe is very big and defy all expectations. Who could have guessed that such dramatic changes would take place in such a short period?" he asked. "But I believe that we in this region are passing through a very. very critical period which warrants

intense world attention." he said. King Hussein said recent armed infiltration attempts across the demarcation line with Israel were carried out by "both external and internal forces" but declined from identifying the "forces." He said he believes that there are two categories of people who perpetrate such attempts. "It is either groups of people who deliberately want to cause damage to the Palestinian intifada, or people motivated by naive emotions." he said. "But these are all part of the

nature of the stage we are going through," he added. However, he stressed that regardless of the motivations of the people behind actions, they would serve the Israeli plan of "Jordan is the solution" by giving pretexts for Israeli

aggression against Jordan. On the domestic front, the King expressed great satisfaction with the progress of the democratisation process in Jordan and reaffirmed that he was committed to the formulation of a national charter to regularise political life in the Kingdom.

Some politicians oppose the formulation of the national charter, expressing fears that it could "bypass"

the Constitution. In the interview the King explained that his objective was the same today as that of 1956 when he allowed a political party which won the election to form a national coalition govern-

In 1956, however, "we suffered a serious setback," he recalled in reference to the sharp disagreement that emerged between the coalition government and himself and which led to the end of the first experiment in pluralism in the Kinedom. In his memoires the King has accused neighbouring Arab states of trying to manipulate the elected government against the regime and the country.

He said he was determined that this time he would not allow the experiment to collapse and that the "national charter" should be instrumental for its success. "We are determined to make it a success this time," he told the Jordan Times.

He said he would designate a group of intellectuals representing all sectors and all trends "from the extreme right to the extreme left" to discuss and draft the national charter. "I will cooperate by presenting some ideas but I will leave to them to crystallise it and present to the Jordanian people for the final say," he said.

In reply to a question on repeatedly voiced fears by some Jordanians that the new democratic experiment in Jordan might come to an end if a conflict emerges between the King and the elected parliament leading to the latter's dissolution, the King said confidently and calmly: "I personally have no intention to go buck to the old way or any other way... I personally shouldered the responsibility for a long time. It is time for the Jordamians to share the responsibilities with and after me."

Mubarak, Peres to meet next week

## Baker talks raise prospect for trilateral meeting next month

Secretary of State James Baker

and Gaza Strip.

process.

Deputy Israeli Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu quoted

by the end of February.

Tuesday with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, Baker estimated "the trilateral meeting of foreign ministers will be held at the end of February," Netanyahu told Israel's parliament.

"I had a very interesting and useful discussion with Secretary Baker and we are going to see each other again, and then maybe at the end of the visit, probably on Friday, I'll have something more to say," Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid told reporters in Washington Tucsday. That was before the arrival of

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who had appointments Wednesday with National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, Vice-President Dan Quayle and Defence Secretary Dick Chency. Rabin was scheduled to see Baker Thursday.

Meanwhile, an aide to Israeli Vice-Premier Shimon Peres said Wednesday that Peres would meet with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo next week in an effort to break the stalemate in the Middle East peace process.

Peres's trip to Cairo apparently stems from an invitation made because of the Labour Party leader's dovish views, which have kept him on the sidelines of

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palesti-"I will not be a toy in the nian leader Yasser Arafat said in Americans' hands," he added. His words suggested that the an interview published Wednesday he would resign if current PNC, vexed by lack of progress in Middle East peace diplomacy, moves to settle the conflict with might adopt a more hardline poli-Is:sel failed. cy in its efforts to liberate the

He told the Egyptian weekly political review Al Mussawar that unless progress was made he would convene a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC), to hand over his responsibilities.

"If current peace efforts reach a dead end. I will call for a meeting of the PNC... and immediately announce my resignation," said Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and president of the State of Palestine.

from the Soviet Union was "racist and expansionist." He said Shamir's claim on the status of the occupied territories poses a threat to Palestinians, Arabs and the international com-

West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In Baghdad, Arafat said

Wednesday Israeli Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Shamir's statement

that Israel must retain the West

Bank and Gaza Strip to settle Jews

"We (the Palestinians) are

## ment about Shamir's remarks. Troops out in Caucasus

MOSCOW (Agencies) -- Soviet troops fanned out across Azerbaiian Wednesday to quell fighting between Armenians and Azeris marked by an orgy of stabbings, beatings and burnings.

Officials said troops sent in by Moscow under an emergency decree took up positions in the main trouble spots and had already curbed the tension, despite roadblocks set up by militant Azeris outside major Azerbaijani

Eyewitness accounts carried by Reuters of a week of confrontation in the Soviet Union's deep south said Azeris had hurled Armenians out of windows, stabbed them, clubbed them and burned them to death, mostly in the Azerbaijani capital, Baku.

A spokesman for the Soviet Interior Ministry said detachments from the more than 11,000 soldiers sent into the Transcaucasus Tuesday had now "made it into the areas of highest tension

spokesman said. "They have considerably reduced the level of confrontation between the two sides."

In Nagorno-Karabakh, some 26,000 people, or about a sixth of the population, have been detained and almost 3,000 firearms and other weapons confiscated since the conflict began 'No bad intention' behind Euphrates move - Turkish officials

despite the roadblocks."

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Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN -- An official Turkish delegation, which is touring several Arab countries, Wednesday said that Turkey did not have any "ulterior motives or bad in-

for one month. The "reservoir impounding" of the Ataturk Dam, which is one of the key structure on the Euphrates River, has drawn protests from both Damascus and Baghdad saying that the cut-off will have adverse effects on their agri-

tentions towards its neighbours'

in its move to cut the flow of the

Euphrates River to Syria and Iraq

Syria and Iraq depend on the Euphrates water for irrigation and hydro-electric power generation. Thousands of hectares of cultivated land and hydroelectric power plants in Syria and Iraq would be seriously effected by the cut-off, which went into effect Saturday, Syrian and Iraqi officiais have been quoted as saying. "Our, intentions have always been to enhance cooperation with

our neighbours. Had they been otherwise we would not have spent \$500 million a day to build the Ataturk Dam," said Necate Utkan, director general of economic affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, one of two Turkish officials now visiting Jordan. "If we want to hurt our neighbours there are less expensive and less complicated ways of doing that. This is not a political manoeuvre to apply pressure on our neighbours.

No diversion

Ozden Bilen, the second man in the delegation, explained that "newspaper reports have said that we are directing the water flow. We are not. Diverting the water flow would mean that the course of the river would be changed and that is not taking

piace. The Turkish government has appounced that the one-month cut-off was simed at filling the Atatoric Dam reservoir.

Utkan warned against "those spreading fears that Torkey has

other intentions are those wishing to do this region harm." "We have signed a protocol in 1987 in which Turkey promised to release 500 cubic metres per second to the Syrian side of the border," Utkan added.

"We have a joint Syrian-Torkish-Iraqi technical committee which deals with our common water issues," Utkan said, "Iraqi and Syrian officials have been briefed on our plans and we have had meetings in the last three months to discuss and explain our plans. As far as we know there was no objection from either

In order to compensate Syria for the low-flow period, Turkey released enough water into Syria to "make up" for the amount of water which it would be denied during the one-month period. The extra flow of water began on November 1989 and the Turkish delegation visiting Amman told reporters that "the extra amount of water has already reached Syria; all of it. as we promised."

Utkan said that Turkey was

aware that the "primary objec-

tion of our two concented neighbours is the time period involved. We have been asked to shorten the cut-off to two weeks instead of four weeks. But the problem is that we want to be honest and can therefore not commit ourselves to an exact time period. Our Syrian and Iraqi colleagues should knowthis because the Ataturk Dam is not the first dam to be filled. They have experience in such things and should therefore realise that we cannot commit ourselves to an exact date."

The Tabga Dam in Syria which stores 14 billion cubic metres of water held the "make up" water that Turkey had released into the Euphrates since Nov. 23, the Turkish officials said. They also said that if there were any disagreements between Syria and Iraq that they had to "work out their differences by an agreement. Our border is with Syria and we are keeping our 500 cubic metres per second part of the

According to official reports from Turkey, the mouths of January and February were chosen to

carry out the operation because, according to their information, water needed for irrigation in Syria and Iraq and evaporation losses are minimal during these months. The Turkish officials main-

tained that the legal status of the river flow was ruled by "optimum, reasonable and equitable utilisation of the water." Utkan added that "the United Nations legal committee of the General Assembly was working on the elaboration of the codification of laws governing rivers."

'I would also like to point out that we are the only country in the region to have anything close to the protocol of 1987 concerning water rights which flow across boundaries," he added. Bilen pointed out that "there

are 130 kilometres between the Ataturk Dam and the Syrian-Tarkish border, not 60 kilometres as many papers reported. What that means is that Turkey will also be effected by the cut off, its farming areas are also bound to suffer, so we are just as interested as our Iraqi and

Syrian neighbours to keep the impounding period as short as possible." The visiting Turkish officials said that three rivers, the Goksu,

the Arabian, and the Nizip, situated between the Ataturk Dam and the Syrian border would contime to flow into the Euphrates. Utkan said that the Ataturk Dam had been paid for "entirely by the Turkish national budget."

They said Turkey is making a strenuous effort to develop its southeastern provinces and thus to curb regional unrest. "We want to improve living conditions and economic conditions where they are not so good," Utkan said. "There are two ways to deal with an unhappy sector of your population; you can crush them or you can try to improve their living and working conditions.

Turkey has opted for the second

choice." The delegation visited Abu Dhabi and Cairo before coming to Amman and leaves for Libya to address Arab agricultural ministers at the Arab League.

## Kuwaiti premier backs democracy, rejects pressure

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah said democracy was a way of life in Kuwait but rejected pressure methods by politicians seeking reinstatement of the dissolved parliament, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

Sheikh Saad, in an interview with Ahmad Jarallah, editor-publisher of the widely read Al Seyassah daily said "everything is possible through dialogue, fraternal meetings and sincere intentions but other methods will turn out to be futile."

"There were drawbacks in the parliamentary experiment and not in the democratic process," he said.

The government stood by the freedom of speech, provided that it did not undermine the country's stability and security, he

"We are not against the other opinion. On the contrary, we do hear the other opinion provided that it is a clean opinion that avoids defamation and encroachment on the dignity of other people," he said.

"We know that some people are repeating themselves because what they say is meaningless... what should be known by all is that the government is keen on preserving the security and stability of the country and performing its civilisational role," he said.

Since early December deputies of the parliament dissolved in 1986 have been leading weekly rallies to press for its return. The government says the rallies

are illegal. Police broke one up Jan. 8 but the latest, Monday, attracted a crowd of several thousand and passed peacefully despite a heavy police presence. It was unclear from Sheikh Saad's remarks if the government would seek a change in the constitution, which states that the now disbanded assembly must approve any amendments.

"We say for clarification that what has been missing is the appearance of the parliament, not democratic participation," Sheikh Saad told the newspaper.

"The constitution is the constitution and the state is the state — one has its text and articles, the other is traditions and cus-

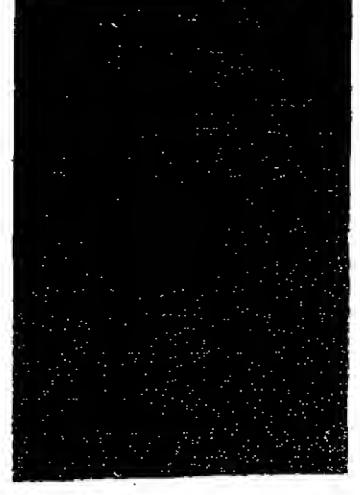
Opposition members fear the government may try to bypass the constitutional process to dilute the powers of the assembly or substitute a new body, a move they would fiercely oppose.

Ministers have complained that debates in the old national assembly sowed tribal divisions and other social tensions and caused problems with Kuwait's larger neighbours. They also say that lawmakers used their positions for personal gain.

"The citizens have announced their rejection of any movement that would revive class or racial struggle or discussion of factionalism," Sheikh Saad told the

He said he wished a new formula were ready now but in the last few years the government was busy with the Gulf war, an economic recession and other difficulties.

"When the region stabilised and calm returned the issue of reorganising the Kuwaiti bouse was the political leadership's mafor concern. This included arranging economic and security



affairs or developing the administrative apparatus," he added. Earlier, Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah insisted that the government believed in democracy but was seeking an alternative formula to that

of the elected 50-member parlia-

ment that prevailed since inde-

pendence in 1961. His statements unleashed a spate of editorial comments, including ones by Jarailah, adding their voice to the pressure for return of parliamentary life and asking for clarification on what other form of democracy the gov-

## emment had in mind. Iraq ready to open air

have to consider providing additional funds to help settle an "We are cutting off the oppor-

take these immigrants, it is something which is very helpful to the U.S. policy," said Specter. He said he did not believe that Senate minority leader Bob

Dole's proposed five per cent cut in U.S. foreign aid is aimed at Sen. Dole knows how to use a

calling for an Iraqi troop withdrawal from Iranian territory captured during the eight-year-long

fortable accommodation" for the

Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) (ICRC).

Akram Al Witri, a Foreign Ministry legal adviser, said Iraq would reciprocate by releasing 20 Iranian sick and disabled prisoners Thursday.

There was no explanation why Iraq would not release an equa number of prisoners.

ICRC official said the chartered airliner that brought the Iraqi prisoners would remain in Baghdad to fly the released Ira-

### Aoun embroiled in war on media ian suburbs of Hazmiyeh near sert our office," he added.

BEIRUT (Agencies) — General Michel Aoun, taking the offenhouse, our pen is our only weapon," said Al Diyar, describsive in a power struggle in Lebanon, Wednesday ordered the prosecution of media which defied his ban on identifying Elias Hrawi as president.

Aoun, who holds that President Hrawi was illegally elected in November, ordered all media Tuesday to stop identifying Hrawi as Lebanon's head of state and Salim Al Hoss as his prime minister. Hrawi was elected by Christian and Muslim members of the Lebanese parliament.

"With all our respect, we are not abiding by the decision," said a front-page editorial in Al Diyar newspaper, published in the Christian enclave controlled by

the general's troops. "He (Aoun) uses the law as an excuse and he is the first one to disobey it," Hoss told editors. "He praises freedom and is the firts to slay it... this man now forms a danger to the country and the people.

the shell-blasted presidential palace in east Beirut and decided to take legal action against those who had defied his decree.

Aoun met public prosecutors at

"We have no militia, no troops, no foreign protection... we are only defending our small

ing Hrawi as president. The Hrawi government has won wide international recognition and in December launched a

bureaucratic and economic campaign to topple Aoun and reunite all of Lebanon under its authority. Christian radio and television

stations maintained a newscast strike for the second straight day to express their rejection of Aoun's orders, but have avoided a direct confrontation with the maverick general. "We have decided not to abide

(by the ban)," Al Diyar's publisher-editor Charles Ayoub said in his editorial.

Following Aoun's instructions. Ayoub wrote, would mean "suffocation... it is a serious begin ning to limit the freedom of the DICSS."

"We do not want a press chained with directives. We do not want a press that becomes our prison, we do not want the office to become our cell and we do not want a pen that becomes our handcuffs," Ayoub wrote.

"That is why we decided not to abide by all the directives because we do not want to divorce our freedom, betray our pen and de-

Ayoub's article was repeatedly broadcast by radio stations operating in west Beirut, which is outside Aoun's control.

Aoun's 20,000 troops control the 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave which includes Beirut's eastern sector and a narrow strip northeast of the capital.

The army command of Gen. Emile Lahoud, which owes allegiance to Hrawi, quickly responded by warning the media against applying Aoun's directive or reporting any of his activity, terming him "an imposter." Aoun, Hrawi and Lahoud are

Maronite Catholics, the Christian sect that has dominated power in Lebanon since independence from France in 1943. Al Divar said the two directives

were "the cross on which the free press would be crucified." The Al Safir newspaper, which

publishes in west Beirut, said Aoun was placing "freedom of the press under house arrest." The paper, in a front-page

banner headline, said Aoun's directive was "another separationist decision" by the 54-year-

The conservative daily Al Anwar, based in Beirut's Christ-

Aoun's headquarters, followed: the general's instructions. Voice of Lebanon radio of the rightist Falange party and Voice of Free Lebanon of the Lebanese Forces militia, maintained a news reporting strike for the second

to potest Aoun's directive. The Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation (LBC), the television station of the Lebanese Forces, also suspended its news-

straight day in an apparent effort

casts Monday. The three Christian news organisations said they were considering Aoun's directive and will. maintain the news strike until they decide what policy to adopt with regard to the directive.

condition he not be named, said the newscast strike safest measure for the time being to avoid carrying out the ban or opposing it and going into an and open confrontation with the general."

The strike and Al Diyar's defiance of Aoun reflected a mushrooming split within Christian ranks over an Arab League : £53 brokered peace plan to end the 14-year-old civil war that has killed more than 150,000 lives.

## 'Rafsanjani survived assassination attempt'

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani survived an assassination attempt in early January, reportedly the second in less than three months. according to a Tehran source. The informed source, speaking

on condition of anonymity, said he learned of the assassination attempt on Rafsanjani about two weeks ago from one of the president's bodyguards. The source said one of Rafsan-

jani's bodyguards tried to shoot the president, but was overpowered by two other men before he could pull the trigger. The two men were injured when the gun went off, he added, but Rafsanjani escaped unharmed.

The source, a Tehran resident speaking from a European capital by telephone, had no other de-

There has been no mention of the attempt in the news media of Iran or by Iranian dissident groups, usually quick to report any sign of instability within the

Powerful radicals within the Mujahedeen-e-Khlaq had re- mic doldrums.

Iranian government, who believe Rafsanjani's pragmatic policies pollute the pure Islamic ideals preached by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, have been openly attacking his policies.

Former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, leader of the radical camp and Rafsanjani's most formidable foe, was dumped by Rafsanjani when he formed his new cabinet in Au-

Sources say rivalry between the two has exacerbated since Mohtashemi secured the Tehran seat in last month's parliamentary The reported attack was followed by a crackdown on Ayatol-

and now one of the government's staunchest critics. The source said that shopkeepers in the holy city of Qom, Montazeri's home town, went on strike after the senior cleric was

lah Ali Montazeri, once

Khomeini's designated successor

arrested for a few hours. The Iranian opposition group



Hashemi Rafsanjani

ported Montazeri's arrest Jan. 6 but said he was released after several hours when tension mounted in the city.

Rafsanjani, 55, reportedly survived an earlier, similar assassination attempt by another bodyguard last October. At a press conference with foreign reporters in Tehran, Rafsanjani denied that there had been an attempt to assassinate him for several years.

The attack was reported to have followed a secret meeting by Rafsanjani and his cabinet, during which a plan was suggested to pull the country out of the econo-

## Specter: Israel aid should not be reduced

TEL AVIV (AP) — U.S. Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania Wednesday rejected an American proposal to cut aid to Israel and four other countries. Specter said Congress would

expected immigration. tunities to come to the United States, so if Israel is willing to

rifle instead of a shotgun. He's hitting a lot of other people if he's aimed at that one issue. He comes from a small town in Kansas where people know how to use mrearms, Specier said.

# links, border with Iran

BAGHDAD (AP) — Interior Minister Samir Mohammad Abdul Wahab said Wednesday preparations had been completed for starting daily flights to Tehran and opening the land borders with Iran for visits by Muslim

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted an unidentified Iraqi Airways official as saying four Jumbo jets were ready to depart for Tehran to transport as many as 1,500 Iranian pilgrims daily to Iraq as soon as Iran agreed.

Abdul Wahab said in an interview with the magazine Alef Ba that the decision for the air land links was based on a proposal by President Saddam Hussein last

Hussein proposed new direct talks to revive the stalled peace negotiations with Iran, exchange of prisoners of war, the opening of air links between Baghdad and Tehran and visits by pilgrims to

religious sites in both countries. Tehran, which insists on talks under United Nations anspices, called the proposal a "deception," and said it iell short for not highes to l'enfan,

Iran-Iraq war. Abdul Wahab said that in addi-

tion to the air link, preparations had also been completed to assist prospective Iranian pilgrims The ministry of religious affairs has also prepared special "com-

pilgrims, he said. Meantime 50 sick and disabled released by Iran arrived in Baghdad Wednesday aboard a plane chartered by the International Committee of the Red Cross

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEFS

### Norway wants reduced role in Lebanon

OSLO (AP) - Norway wants to reduce its 850-man commitment in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) as of next fall, a government spokesman said. State Secretary Knut Volleback of the Foreign Ministry said on the national NRK radio that Norway would raise the issue with the U.N. secretariat in New York in the near future. "It's not a question of withdrawing. Norway from UNIFIL, only a certain reduction of our current engangement," Volleback said.

### iraq lifts travel restrictions

BAGHDAD (R) - Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has lifted travel restrictions imposed on Iraqis early in the Gulf war. Baghdad Radio announced. It said Hussein had ordered the economic committee at the council of ministers to take action to facilitate travel.

### 16 killed in Istanbul fire

ISTANBUL (AP) — Fire swept through a building housing textiles workshops Tuesday, killing 16 workers and injuring 10 others, police said. A police officer told the Associated Press that the fire started on the second floor of a five-storey building in the central Istanbul district of Knmkapi. The blaze quickly spread to other floors housing several textiles workshops, he said. He said that after extinguishing the blaze, firefighters removed the bodies of 16 young workers employed at synthetic-fabric weaving workshops on the second and third floors of the building. He said most of the dead had been unable to leave their workshops because of the fire and suffocated. He said 10 other workers who had been injured were taken to hospitals. One was in serious condition. An omcial at the fireigning department of the istanbul Municipalit said he suspected the fire started in the electrical system but that authorities had not yet completed their investigation.

### Riyadh: Ankara attack isolated incident

NICOSIA, (R) — Saudi Arabia's deputy interior minister was quoted Wednesday as saying a bomb attack on the car of a Saudi diplomat in Ankara was an isolated incident. The Saudi daily-Al Madina quoted Prince Ahmad Bin Abdul Aziz as saying he believed the attack was "an isolated incident carried out by individual criminals or parties." A bomb wrecked a Saudi diplomatic car in Ankara Sunday but caused no casualties. It was the second such attack in three months. An accountant at the Saudi military attache's office lost both legs in a carbomb blast last October, responsibility for which was claimed by the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad group based in Lebanon.

### Lockheed employees detained in Chad

ATLANTA (AP) — Three employees of a U.S. aeronautics company have been detained in Chad during what company officials called a "misunderstanding" with the government. The three men are technical representatives sent to look after some C-130 Hercules airplanes sold to Chad by Lockheed Aeronautical System-Georgia, company spokesman Dick Martin said Tuesday night. Martin said Lockheed agreed to set up an office in Chad for one year after the sale of the aircraft so company technicians could help maintain the planes and explain their use. But when that year ended, in December, as the men packed up, they destroyed some documents, including manuals on the aircraft. Martin said the Chad government felt those documents belonged to them, while Lockheed maintains it was company material. Martin said Chad officials then revoked the men's passports, but he said they were allowed to roam their hotel and the surrounding

# Kabul sees progress in national reconciliation

By Bryan Wilder

The Associated Press KABUL — President Najibullah's government claims to have made tangible gains in its three-year old programme of national reconciliation even though it has not succeeded in ending the country's protracted civil war.

Government officials admit that fighting between their Soviet-armed troops and the U.S.-backed guerrillas continues to claim heavy tolls in life and property. But they also claim to be

achieving success through a

campaign of offering amnesty to guerrillas who surrender and cash for their weapons. Najibullah, former head of the feared Khad secret police, launched his national reconciliation programme in January 1987 with the first of a series of

iahedeen.

"The last three years have been really difficult and full of problems because of the enemies of national reconciliation, but we have made a number of fruitful gains," government spokesman Naquib Sameer

He asserted that "70 per cent of armed opposition commanders have laid down their weapons and joined national reconciliation.

In November, the United Nations official in charge of Afghan refugee aid provided some support for the position. Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, told reporters in New York that many of the Mujahedeen commanders have de-facto truces in areas under their con-

"In point of fact, a very large part of the country, which is rural, is controlled by the opposition, by the resistance." he said. "Two-thirds of the

Guerrilla leaders based across the border in Pakistan admit that some of their fighters in Afghanistan have struck deals with the government, but they say the majority are still

> Azim Nasser-Zia, spokesman for the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, one of the seven Pakistan-based Mujahedeen factions, scoffed at Sameer's claim.

> > "Maybe 70 per cent of the Mujahedeen have taken Najibuliah's arms and money but only to use it against him," Kabul officials claim that 168 "armed opposition groups"

have joined Najibullah's

between 30,000 and 40,000

national reconciliation process and that an additional 351 groups have signed ceasefire agreements. These officials estimate that

country is gradually returning to normal." Mujahedeen are still fighting

the government. Mujahedeen leaders, however, claim they have a fighting force of 150,000 men, who move freely in much of the Afghan countryside but have failed to capture a single major city in the nearly 12year-old war.

The Mujahedeen denounce Najibullah's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan as "godless communists" and steadfastly refuse to enter into any power-sharing arrangements.

> Abdul Rahim, spokesman for the Mujahedeen news agency Midia, said battlefield reports contradict Kabul's claims of widespread support for the reconciliation process. "If anyone has joined the Communists, it's because they were Communists before," Rahim said. "The real Mu-

iahedeen commander would

never join Najibullah."

The Afghan war started in 1978 when the People's Democratic Party seized power in a military coup and embarked upon the Marxist policies that Najibullah now seeks to dis-

In 1979, internal rivalries

spurred another military coup

within the party. By December 1979, the Soviet troops intervened to install yet a third Marxist government and stayed on to fight the growing Mujahedeen insurgency. The Red Army managed only a stalemate before with-

drawing its troops over a ninemonth period that ended in February 1989. Since then, Najibullah has been supplied by Moscow with weapons and food but has not achieved a military victory over the fierce-

mountain guerrillas. But he has foiled U.S. and other Western predictions that his government would quickly tumble once the Soviets withdrew their direct combat sup-

"We think that the Mujahedeen commanders will come to the conclusion that further fighting is useless," Sameer, the government spokesman, predicted.

He claimed that "tens of thousands" of guerrillas had been killed in the past year, while only 700 to 800 government soldiers had died. The claims cannot be verfiied because most of the fighting takes place in areas usually inaccessieble to independent observers and journalists.

However, more than five million Afghans — one-third the country's pre-war population — remain huddled in squalid refugee camps across the border in Paksitan and Iran. By the Kabul government's own estimates, fewer than five per cent have ventured home in the past three

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

short-lived ceasefires that have

been routinely rejected by Mu-

PROGRAMME ONE 15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:10 Book of Adventure
18:20 News for the Deaf
18:20 Religious programme
19:06 Health programme 19:40 Programme review 28:09 ...... News in Arabic 20:30 ..... Local series 21:30 ..... Programme review 21:48 ..... Local programme 22:20 ..... Arabic film 23:00 ..... News in Arabic PROGRAMME TWO 18:00 ..... Tel Pere Tel File 18-36 ...... La Chance aux chansons 19:80 ...... News in French 19:15 ...... Silence on Tourse 19:30 ..... News in Hebrew 19:45 ...... Varieties 20:00 ..... News in Arabic 20:30 .... A Different World 21:10 ..... NBA Basketball 22:20 Feature film: "Forbidden Love"

### 06:32 ...... (Saurise) Daha

14:35 ...... 'Acr

PRAYER TIMES

CHURCHES St. Mary of Negareth Church Sweifleh

Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Assumpliation Tel. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasanta Charch Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Tel. Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 827981, 685326. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: The Church of Jenus Christ of Latter-

### WEATHER

Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932.

Bulletin supplied by the Department of It will be partly cloudy and a rise in temperatures will occur. Winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Acaba, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate wind and calm sea.

Amman ..... 5/13 Aqaba ..... 10 / 19 Jordan Valley ...... 8 / 18 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Aqaba 10. Humidity readings: Amman 90 per cent, Aqabs 63 per

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

**USEFUL TELEPHONE** NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN: Dr. Sahnan Al Daboubi ....... 812568 Dr. Majed Abu Soeineh ......... 881635 Dr. Amjad Nawwas ..... 781806 Dr. Hanna Mansour ...... 732574 Ferdows pharmacy ...... 778336 Al Asema pharmacy ...... 637055 Nairoukh pharmacy ...... 623672 Al Salam pharmacy ...... 636730 Yacoub pharmacy ...... 644945 Shmeisani pitarmacy ...... 637660

Dr. Mohammad Al Ta'ani ...... (-) Al Sharas' pharmacy ...... (985238) EMERGENCIES Civil Defence Department ..... 661111 Civil Defence immediate

Rescue...... 630341

Civil Defence Emergency ....... 199

Rescue Police ..... 192,621111,637777

Fire Brigade 891228 Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police ...... 843402

Public Security Department .... 630321

Hotel Complaints ...........
Price Complaints ............
Water and Sewerage Complaints

Amman Municipality Telephone Information Overseas Calls ...... 010230 Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111 Electric Power Queen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

ADMAN: Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ... 644281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Palestine, Shmeisuri ...... 664171/4 University Hospital ..... 845845 Al-Backir, J. Ashrafich ..... 775111/26 Army, Marka ...... 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital ...... 602240/50 Arnal Hospital ...... 674155 Zarga Govt, Hospital ..... (09)983323 Zarga National Hospital .. (09)991071 Ibo Sina Hospital IRRID: Princess Basma Hospital .. (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibo Al Nafoes Hospital .... (02)247100 AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital .... (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 99:00 Damascus (RI) 09:15 ..... Ageba (RJ)

09-20 ..... New Delhi (RI)

99:30 ,..... Cairo (RJ)

18:00 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) 18:00 Dhahran, Kuwalt (RJ)

14:00 ...... Abu Dhabi, Bahwan (RJ)

16:15 ..... London (RI)

16:30 ..... Largaca (RJ)

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal

Jordanian (RJ) information depart-

ment at the Queen Alia International

(Terminal (1) 10:45 ..... Rome (RJ) 11:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (add.) (RJ) 12-90 ..... London (RJ)
12-15 ...... Paris (RJ)
12-30 ..... Larmaca (RJ) 20:45 ..... Dubei, Muscat (RI) 21:15 ..... Bangkok (RI)

Other Flights (Terminal (2) 16:10 ..... Frankfort (LH) 11:90
13:90
14:50
15:90
15:30
Ankara, Istanbul (TK) 17:00 .... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:10 .... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ) 18:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ) 

69:10 ..... Sanas (LH) 19:99 ...... Baghdad (RJ) 12:25 ...... Riyadh (SV) 13:40 ..... Knwait (KU) 14:05 ...... Muscat, Bahrain (GF 14:30 ..... Dhahran (1K) 15:30 ..... Dubai (EK) 19:00 ..... Amsterdam (KL) 19:25 ..... Frankfurt (LH) 20:10 ........... Zurich, Lamaca (SR) 21:45 ..... Cairo (MS)

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Orange sending 

### 21:36 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ) 21:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 22:39 Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ) FOR FRIDAY JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME ONE

Tel: 773111-19

10:15 Children programme
11:20 Religious programme 12:45 ..... Sports programme
14:15 ..... Religious programme
Religious programme
Religious programme 16:30 ..... Damascus, Dubai (EK) MARKET PRICES 13:00 ..... Message from Onion 18:10 ..... Local programme 19:25 ..... Local programme Upper/lower price in fils per kg. 19:40 Programme review
29:40 News in Arabic Apple ..... 420 / 380 Banana (Mukammar) 450 / 400 / 350 20:30 Local programme 21:40 Arabic series Beans ..... 600 / 500 Cabbage ..... 90 / 60 23:00 ..... News summary in Arabic Carrot ...... 220 / 180 23:10 ..... Programme costo, PROGRAMME TWO 17:00 ..... Des Chiffres Et de Lettres Dates ..... 550 / 500 17:30 .... French play Eggplant ...... 110 / 80 19:00 ...... News in French 19:15 ..... Documentary Lenson 200 / 160

Marrow (large) 150 / 120

Marrow (small) 260 / 200

Omion (dry) 240 / 200 20.00 .... News m Arabic 20:30 Coch 21:18 ..... Thurty Something 22:00 News in Equisis 22:20 First Among Equils Onion (green) ..... 200 / 160 Orange (Shamonti) ........... 300 / 250 PRAYER TURES

06:32

(Sugrise) Duba Pepper (bot) ...... 360 / 300 11.45 ..... Electric

### Lower House to meet on amendments

M AMMAN (Potrs) — The Lower Le House of Parliament has both called for a moeting Saturday to CISCUSE SEVERE IN AMERICANNESSES appare including one on agricultural marketing and another on the planting of tobecon.

A parliamentary committee. charged with investigating the reender cent distributes an ecting cent distorbances at Yermouk Wednesday and heard a testimony by Dr. Feed Al Sheikh, the We am Dr. Klisled Omeri, the deep of university's vice-president, and police the students department.

be dies a full university report on the BC a um morecasis, several and be note dents were injured during a fight Tike to following the end of an exhibition The on the Palestinian uprising, Out the would be prepared soon and going, would be submitted to the comtion in initiee to help its members reach a resolution.

Lower Hoose of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar called the public health and environment committee for a meeting Tuesday to elect its rapportent and chairplan to man. The House's financial committee will resume its moetings at the House Saturday.

Support for intifada

Three deputies in the Lower Danos House urged Jordan and the Arab World to rally behind the comme uprising in occupied Palestine INIFIL: and to extend all possible assistcream; ance to the people in the face of al NRK. Israel's practices and arrocities. The deputies, Fakhri Kawar,

Yousef Al Athem and Hosni Al four Shiyab, who were addressing a general raliv held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman, called for discussion on ways of supporting the intifada, ein hat now in its third year.

Athem said that financial, mororden: al, and diplomatic support should take 300 be extended by the Arab Nation to the Palestinian people "who are fighting for their freedom and an end to occupation." He said that the Palestine question was a tousing a cause for Jordan and the rest of

the Arab World. Kawar preed writers and intellectuals to contribute towards the ongoing campaign to rally support for the Palestinian people.

ps becar AMMAN (J.T.) — Two interna-

who hat sonal firms will begin restoration

condition work at the Dome of the Rock

Munic Mosque of Haram Al Sharif in-

stem be Arab Jerusalem by the first of

tion. April 1990 in accordance with

incidecommittee charged with the pro-

ministring to commitment member Raef

saudi de Nijm, a former minister of pub-

as saggific works and an engineer, said

arried a the dome of the shrine, the third

ked a sholiest in Islam, was severely

nalies adamaged by an arson attack in-

untant 1969, which resulted in cracks

wombble and rain water leakage. Apart

te pro-le from that, the whole dome has

become unfit for the shrine be-

cause many parts of it has been

car of 11 Nijm.

plans set by a special Jordanian

ject by the government, accord-



Palesthian children at one of the refugee camps that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency acutate (UNEWA photo)

## U.N. to stop EC meals for Palestinian children

By Alistair Lyon

AMMAN - Palestinian refugees in Jordan are protesting a United Nations decision to stop distributing extra meals from the European Community (EC), to almost 10,000

youngsters. They say the move is "void of reason and wisdom" and with Jordan suffering an economic recession will have "very grave consequences (for) the health standards of the beneficiaries." Some 9.500 Palestinian children aged three to five get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the U.N. Relief and Works Agency

(UNRWA). The European Community donates the food, worth \$2 million a year. UNRWA spends \$700,000 to prepare and distribute it. The food and money will still be used to aid Palestinians, but not necessari-

According to Nijm, one of the

two international firms will be

charged with removing the alumi-

nium dome sheets and install

brass sheets with a new frame.

The other firm, he said, will

install an early alarm system to

warn against fires. The three-year

project, Nijm said, will be fi-

nanced by the Jordanian treas-

Nijm, in a statement to Al

Dustour daily, said that 90 per

cent of the nearly \$7.5 million

spent on restoration work inside

the holy shrine over the past

years came from the Jordanian

government. The committee had

maintained contacts with Arab

and Islamic countries to ensure

ury, but he gave no figures.

Nijm explained.

ly in Jordan. Ele Sasí, UNRWA director in Jordan, told a news conference Wednesday: "Criticism from the refugees was expected. But we feel we have to

do this." A survey by UNRWA and the World Health Organisation (WHO) two years ago found no mainutrition in Jordan or among the 900,000 resident Palestinian refugees, including up to 250,000 living in camps,

he said. The meals-for-toddlers approach will be phased out this year and replaced with a target programme providing food in needy cases spotted by medical workers.

A committee representing refugees has written to UN-RWA's Vienna-based Commissioner-General Giorgio Giacomelli complaining about the decision.

Abdel Aziz Sager, secretary of the committee, told Reu-

sufficient funds for the project,

but all efforts went in vain, Nijm

said. He said that earlier work get

the mosque included the removal

of the burnt parts preparing plans

for the restoration work to build

up parts of the ceilings, walls and

columns and rebuilding 50 large

windows with coloured glass and

According to Nijm, the re-

buildings of the Saladdin Pulpit

will be included in the third stage

of the project and after sufficient

would involve technicians experi-

enced in wood carving. The Pul-

pit was erected by Saladdin, the

famous Muslim leader who liber-

ated the city of Jerusalem from

He said work on the Pulpit

allocations have been made.

other materials.

Dome of the Rock restoration to begin in April

ters: "It seems to me that all this is pressures being practised on us for political ends," he did not claborate.

Sheikh Abdul-Hamid Al Sayeh, speaker of the Palestine National Council, said in a statement UNRWA's move could be a first step towards ending services to Palestinian

He appealed to Arab and Islamic countries to persuade UNRWA to reverse the deci-

UNRWA, which is making budget cuts this year because the United States has reduced its contributions, provides education, health and relief services to more than two million Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It's up to the commissioner-general to decide where the needs are greatest," Saaf said.

the Crusader in 1187 A.D.

The Jordanian committee in

charge of restoration at the shrine

is chaired by Chief Islamic Justice

Mohammad Mheilan, who last

November estimated the dome

inside of the Mosque, Nijm said,

went rather slowly mainly due to

obstacles placed by the Israeli

authorities. He said that the

Israelis had on several occasions

stopped workers from entering

the work site, prevented the re-

quired supplies and building

materials from reaching the en-

gineers and workers, arrested

some of the workers, sent in

extremists to pray in the shrine

and continued its archaeological

digging under the mosque.

The committee's work on the

rposect to cost JD 2 million.

## Hurdles face fired employees

By Suhair Obeidat

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A pencl representing employees who lost their jobs for political reasons is facing problems in efforts to help reinstate dismissed employees due to the absence of a practical mechanism after the government's decision to amend martial laws regulations, according to a member of the committee.

Until noon Wednesday, the panel received around 270 applicants and more are being handed in. "It is too early to say how many people were actually dismissed from government jobs over the years since many of them have left the country, but, according to Nimer Sarban "the number of cases are much higher than the applications that have actually reached us."

"We even received a great number of applications from emplayees who were dismissed for non-political reasons, like embez-

ziement and dealing with drugs, but we turned them down, because this committee is only for those dismissed for political reasons," Sarban told the Jordan Times.

The temporary committee, which is affiliated to the public freedoms committee in the Professional Associations Complex, plans to review its work at a meeting to be held Saturday. The major problem encoun-

tered by the committee, according to Sirhan, is that the government decision does not mean that the dismissed people would be reinstated to their previous jobs. Sarhan said many of such people approached the government seeking the jobs from which they were dismissed but were told that

government jobs. "This, in effect, means that the government has not fulfilled the

of martial law," Sarhan asserted, Saturday's meeting will be

open for all employees dismissed for political reasons and the main purpose of the gathering is to discuss and draft a memo to be sent to the prime minister. Sarban said. "The memo will request the

reempleyment of all dismissed employees and giving them all their legal rights, be it in salaries or grades for promotion," Sarhan

Lawyer Asma Khader, a leading human rights activist, will brief the Saturday gathering on the legal status of the fired civil servants, and answer related questions. Sarhan said. The legal status of the dismis-

they could only apply as new sed employees has many angles. candidates and that the govern-For instance, there are many who ment decision only meant that have reached the age of 60, and if they were now free to apply for the lost years of service are not considered they will lose their pensious.

Aco: ording to Sarhan, the High-

purpose of redressing the effects er Court of Justice has ruled out the duration that a dismissed civil servant spent in the private sector before being reinstated in the civil service should be considered

as continued service in the government. On a constitutional level the issue is that the dismissal is indeed legal because martial law

(by which the employees were

dismissed) is legal. "However, another explanation says that although the martial law is based upon Article 125 of the Constitution, it contradicts the Constitution itself. So the procedures taken according to martial law are not constitution-

al," according to Sarhan. According to Sarhan, since the termination of services and frozen promotions had an adverse impact on the standard of living of the concerned people they should be seen as part of "the impact of martial law regulations" which the executive authority is committed to cancel.

## Communists welcome move to abolish law

AMMAN (R) — The head of Jordan's banned Communist Party Wednesday praised the government's scrapping of a 37-year-old anti-communism law.

"This is a great move which fulfills our old wishes," Ya'coub Zayadin, the party's secretary-general told Reuters. "We hope this move will bear other positive things like allowing us to issue our own newspaper and giving our party total legality to work in Jordan," he added.

The government Tuesday revoked the law as part of measures promised by Prime Minister Mudar Badran last month towards greater political freedom. Badran had said that martial law, imposed since 1967, would be

lifted before June. His Majesty King Hussein has also promised a national charter

that would lay the ground for some form of a multi-party political Political parties have been banned in Jordan since 1957, but

many of their members, who ran in the general parliamentary elections in November, won seats in the Lower House of Parliament. In another statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra,

Ziyadin said the government decision was in line with its policy of reexamining all laws that restrict public freedoms prior to amending them or scrapping them altogether.

"The decision is a true manifestation of the government's commitment to pursue the course of democracy," Petra quoted Ziyadin as saying.

### Faqir warns against using mosques for political affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — Mosque pulpits are solely for preaching the Islamic faith and should not be used for election campaigning or discussing parliamentary or political affairs, Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Al Faqir warned Wednesday.

"Any plans for holding ceremonies in mosques should first be approved by the Ministry of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs and its affiliated departments around the abide by the ministry's instruccountry, provided that no Parlia-tions.

ment related affairs are involved," minister said at a meeting with directors of as Awqaf departments in various governo-

"Preachers should refrain from giving hostile hints about any organisations or institutions in Jordan because this totally contradicts the Islamic faith." the minister warned.

He said that preachers should

## Arab, W. German media plan more links, cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Media spe- vide help to the Arab news agencialists and directors of news cies to enable them to cope withagencies from the Arab World modern developments in comand the Federal Republic of Ger-munications, information and many Wednesday concluded a news media, Salem said. three-day round-table conference here designed to promote cooperation and improve news pre- tion was currently holding consentation and understanding be- tacts with news agencies in Easttween Europe and the Arab em Europe to prepare for joint countries.

Following the final session, Ali Safadi, director general of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the Federation of Arab News ideas about the Arabs being hostile Agencies (FANA) had announced its intention during Romania and other parts of Eastthe meetings to reexamine means ern Europe, Ayar said. of presenting news so that proto col news would be scaled down and more focus would be given to nutional news and matters relazed to cultural affairs and devieleopment in the Arab World.

FANA, which organised the meeting in cooperation with Petra, will also embark on promoting its cooperation with Arab news provide more precise information to the outside world, Safadai

Dr. Adnan Salem, the UN-ESCO delegate to the meeting. UNESCO will continue to pro- rates, Syria and Jordan.

Fana Secretary General Farid Ayar told Petra that the federameetings to plan cooperation.

The meetings are needed to base cooperation on mutual understanding and to root out false to the liberalisation movement in

During the recent upheaval in Eastern European countries, Israel and its allies succeeded in whipping up an anti-Arab campaign and "the Arabs should counter this move which could damage Arab-European relations," Ayar said.

Upon the conclusion of the agencies making use of satellites meetings, the participants sent and establishing a data bank with cables of appreciation and gratithe help of the United Nations tude to His Majesty King Hussein Educational, Scientific and Cultu- for the new liberal and democraral Organisation (UNESCO) to tic climate in Jordan's politics. They said that such situation could and would contribute towards an increase in the flow of objective news from the Arab World.

Arab delegates at the meeting said the participants had a very represented Egypt, Morocco, useful exchange of ideas and in- ! b.: Mgeria, I. al. Saudi Araformation during the meetings. bia, Qatar, the United Arab Emi-

## Al Quds to begin courses in spring

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Quds Open University (QOU), the first of its kind in the Arab World, is to open its doors in the spring of 1990, following a long process of preparations and unexpected delays, according to the university's

president, Dr. Munther Salah.

"We will start off with three programmes -- land and rural development, accountancy and data systems and education." Salah said in a statement to Ai Dustour Arabic daily.

QOU is initially aimed at providing education to people in the occupied territories and will try to fulfil this goal from its temporary beadquarters in Amman, Salah

The university has contacted a number of Arab television stations, specially those in Jordan and Egypt, for broadcasting education programmes with special attention given to Jordan

Television, which is located in a central geographical area and whose programmes can reach all! the occupied lands, he said.

"The educational programmes will be telecast during the day so as not to interfere with the routine programmes, and we might start off with an-hour-a-day programme in the initial stages, Salah told Al Dustour. Salah, a former president of Al

Najah University in the occupied West Bank town of Nablus who was expelled to Jordan, said that no final agreement had been reached with any television station, but negotiations were underway.

The open university is not aimed at substituting the universities of the occupied territories but as a back-up institution, specially in the light of the situation in occupied Palestine resulting from the intifada." Salah said. At the same

time, it will try to benefit all those wishing to acquire higher education in the Arab World through distance education methods and will beam its programmes through branch offices that would be opened in Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Tunisia

The university is now facing financial difficulties, Salah said.

Salah said.

He expected these to be covercome in five years. However, he said, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has offered \$1 million in assistance, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has been providing aid to the university since 1976. The university has requested additional help from UNESCO in

the form of a television studio

which is needed for broadcasting

the programmes, Salah added.

and Sudan as well as Jordan.

Japan has been approached to provide \$600,000 in aid to the university but nothing has yet materialised, he said.

Salah said students from the occupied territories and Jordan will be asked to pay \$15 per credit hour, those in other Arab countries \$30 and of those in Arab oil-producing countries \$60, according to Salah.

The university will be preparing modern programmes employing modern technology to be presented in a modern method with teachers providing instructions and guidance to students by correspondence. In the future, the university will be providing courses that can benefit socioeconomic development in the Arab World and subjects like mechanical and electrical engineering, informatics and rural development, as well as management and education.

## in Capulled off from its holding frame, ; sere Amman institute ok after hopes to benefit said To from IMF training ise. Bu AMMAN (Petra) — The director

ked of a training institute affiliated to the Washington-based internatents bell pional Monetary Funday (IMF) 120 met with Washington-based offipassport cials here to discuss Wednesday ie surroshee prospect of sending experts from the IMF Institute to orgamise training seminars at the Amman-based Arab institute for Banking Studies (AIBS).

Minister of Finance Basel Jarudaneh Central Bank of Jordan DAI (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saced Al Nabulsi and AIBS de director Hamdi Sagga held meet-111-19 ing with Gerard Teysier on cooperation in training related issues with the IMF Institute.

Sagga said he discussed with igos The Jeysier the prospect of pro-First viding the Washington-based in-Sport stitute's trainign to Arab bankers Religionary officials here in Amman with the help of IMF experts Washington.

Agreement was reached at the

Local meetings to expand the scope of lecture at the AIBS outlining scooperation betweeen the two institutes with a view to benefit- Third World.

iffer Ba



Basel Jardaneh

ing business of the Arab World, Sagga said.

Later, the Teysier delivered a IMF training programmes in the

## WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITION An exhibition entitled "They chose 30 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.

### FILMS

☆ A feature film entitled "La Bamba" at the American Centre --7:00 p.m.

\* The second part of the Soviet film "The Risk" at the Soviet Cultural Centre - 6:00 p.m.

### NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING MEETS SWEDISH GENERAL: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received former Swedish Air Force Commander and President of the Royal Academy for Naval Studies General Olson. Present were the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and the Swedish ambassador to Jordan (Petra).

JUST-BANK COOPERATION: Jordan University for Science

and Technology (JUST) President Dr. Kamel Ajlouni Wednesday dis-

cussed with a visiting delegation representing the Islamic Bank for Development (IDB) mutual cooperation and matters related to an IDB-financed housing project for JUST staff and students. The delegation was also briefed on JUST's future projects and the possibilities of getting the bank's assistance in financing these projects, particularly the King Abdullah Hospital (Petra).

NO FAVOURITISM AT MU'TA: Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafza announced at a meeting with the University Council that no favouritism would be allowed to exist at the university and equal opportunities would be offered to all staff members for promotion and for continuing higher studies. Mahafza also announced that he had a new organisational plan for the university's development (Petra).

NEW JAPANESE ENVOY: Japan's ambassador designate to Jordan Tadanki Nonouama is due here Thursday to take up his new post. Nonouama succeeds Mokoto Watanabe, who served as Japan's ambassador here since 1988 (Petra).

ing from IMF expertise in bank- | ZINCHUK HONOURED: First Deputy of the Upper House of Parliament Speaker and President of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society Bahjat Talhouni Wednesday gave a luncheon in honour of Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk at the conclusion of his tour of duty (Petra).

> NMI SERVICES: Director-General of the National Medical Institution (NMI) Dr. Abdul Salam Majali has said NMI intends to provide medical services to employees of ministries, government departments, and public institutions. It is part of NMI policy to provide such services to people in all parts of the Kingdom who have the right to receive such a treatment, he said (Petra).

> ARBOR DAY CELEBRATIONS: Arbor Day celebrations were held Wednesday in Mafraq, Irbid, Ramtha and several outlying districts of Amman, Officials and residents as well as children planted trees (Petra).

> JSFA ARBOR DAY: A special Jordanian-Scandinavian Friendship Association (JSFA) Arbor Day will be organised Jan. 19 at 11:00 in the Scandinavian forest. At 11:15 there will be a flag raising ceremony (J.T.).

### JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY **RISHA GAS POWER STATION** ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENDER AVAILABILITY FOR **GENERATOR TRANSFORMERS**

**TENDER No. 53/89** Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Tender

January, 1990. The Tender consists of manufacturing and supply of two (2) Generator Transformers 11/132 K.v. 45 MVA. The supplier shall provide supervision during erection and

Document, No. 53/89 is available for purchase as of 17

commissioning. Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of JEA Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, 17 March, 1990 at the JEA offices in Amman.

Tender documents are available at the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 50 payable to JEA for each set of the tender documents.

**Jordan Electricity Authority** Jabai Amman - 7th Circle Post Office Box 2310 Amman, Jordan. Telex: 21259 JEASAK Fax. No. 818336

### JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY RISHA GAS POWER STATION ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENDER AVAILABILITY FOR

### GAS CONDITIONING PLANT AND PIPELINE **FACILITIES TENDER No. 52/89**

Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Tender Document, No. 52/89 is available for purchase as of 17 January, 1990.

The tender consists of supply, erection, testing and commissioning of gas conditioning unit, pipeline facilities and auxiliaries required for the treatment of gas for Risha Gas Power Station.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of JEA Tendering Committee before 10.00 a.m. Amman time, 17 March 1990 at the JEA offices in Amman.

Tender documents are available at the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 150 payable to JEA for each set of the tender documents.

**Jordan Electricity Authority** Jabal Amman - 7th Circle Post Office Box 2310 Amman, Jordan Telex: 21259 JEASAK Fax. No. 818336

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

جوران الإمن يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تمجر بالإنجليزية عن للؤسسة المسطية الاربنية Chairman of the Board of Directors:

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## Time for reassessment

AS His Majesty King Hussein has stated in an interview published in the Boston Globe newspaper recently, the PLO is being constantly lured in to give one concession after the other with no visible sign that it is getting anywhere with its peaceful and flexible position. "If the PLO appears to be giving and giving and more is demanded of it," the King warned, "what can be the result except shaking the foundation of confidence that it has from its constituency. King Hussein went on to say that he feared that there were serious attempts to undermine the PLO and destroy its image within the Palestinian people.

There are also voices from within the PLO who are now calling for a reassessment of its approach and tactics regarding the peace process in view of the fact that it has reached a fatal deadlock. Since there is a wide consensus that the PLO has gone too far by offering a chain of concessions without yet gaining acceptance as a real negotiating partner and that time is therefore propitious to reassess the options still available to the Palestinian side, it is: high time to spell out these options not in secret corridors and confidential meetings but out in the open so that the Palestinian people at large would have an opportunity to share in the reflections and reassessment of such options. After all this is the spirit of democracy that is sweeping through the entire face of the earth and it is high time that the people affected by major national decisions are brought

into the reassessment process.

The first and most urgent thing that needs to be addressed is the course and tactics of the intifada especially after it has established itself beyond a shadow of doubt as the best cataylist available now to support and realise the national aspirations of the Palestinian people for statehood and self-determination. And in view of the fact that events in Eastern Europe and within the Soviet Union are overshadowing the Palestinian uprising, it is imperative that new tactics be deployed to perpetuate the intifada in order to win back the distracted world attention. It appears, for example, that the intifada would probably continue for a long time and as has been suggested by some knowledgeable people instead of daily routine bursts expressing opposition to Israeli occupation, the Palestinian people may want to consider periodic major bursts of the kind that stands to bring back the focus of international attention back to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Such an intermittent tactic could facilitate the carrying on with life in the occupied territories and would prolong the ability and capacity of the intifada to go on as long as necessary and if need be indefinitely. Needless to say, the Palestinian people are the best judge of which way to go and it would be presumptuous on spectators, even the faithful among them, to preach to them from a distance. Yet one thing is now clear: There is going to be a long way before real negotiations will start between the parties involved in the Palestinian conflict and there is therefore an urgent need for reassessment of the options and tactics.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian newspapers on Wednesday's dwelt on Israel's absorption of thousands of Jews to be settled in the occupied Arab lands; and discussed the serious dimensions of the Jewish immigration to Palestine.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily called an Arab summit meeting to decide on ways to deal with the problem and urged speedy action in the form of contacts with the Soviet Union and the United States. The immigration of thousands of Jews from the Soviet Union and the Eastern European countries to Palestine the paper said, constitutes a real aggression on the Palestinans and grave danger to their future, because the new Jewish comers will be settled on lands usurped from their legitimate owners and at the expense of the sufferings of the Palestinian people. The paper attacked the United States in particular because it said it is responsible for forcing the Soviet Jews to go to Israel by refusing to absorb any of them in its country, and because it is the real cause behind the uprooting of the Palestinian people from their own homeland. United States and Israel are now trying to inject newcomers into occupied Palestine to make up for the exodus of thousands of Jews who are leaving the country after discovering that they were deceived and misled by Zionist propaganda and lured to the occupied lands, the paper noted.

A guest columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Wednesday criticises two institutions in Jordan — the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation and the educational centres like schools and universities. Jihad Udelbat says that it is enough to watch television in the evening to be horribly bored with the readers of news and continuity programmes because of the numerous inguistic mistakes they make which shows that they are of poor training and poor education. The writer says that the country is full of people who can be more presentable on television in appearance and in language, but had not had the chance even to apply for jobs with the corporation. He also points an accusing finger at the Ministry of Education and the educational institutions for poor education offered to their students and calls for a real overhaul of the educational system in the country.

Al Dustour Arabic daily dwelt on the Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and Yitzhak Shamir's statements in which he expressed his government's intention to settle Jews on Arab lands to which he said Israel should hold on for ever. This situation, the paper said, serves as an alarming bell warning us of the looming danger and of the serious consequences on the prospects of peace in the Middle East. The continued immigration is bound to have its adverse effects on Arab-Soviet relations and must prompt Moscow to realise that the immigration of Jews is dealing a detrimental blow to the Arab Nation's interests, said the paper. Instead of dwelling on this issue in the press alone, the Arabs should take up the matter with Moscow and should discuss this serious question at the Arab League and at the highest possible level, the paper suggested.

## 'Cut aid to Israel, 4 others'

The following article by U.S.Senate ininority leader Bob Dole, appeared in the January 16 issue of Republican from Kansas the New York Times:

IT's always a little risky to predict history's verdict on contemporary events. But even from today's sometimes shortsighted perspective, it is safe to declare 1989 as one of the watershed years of the 20th century — the year in which Communism collapsed and the long dormancy of freedom suddenly and dramatically blossomed in places from Poland to Panama\_

In fact, events have been moving so fast that, in some ways, we're all playing catch-up on our own analyses and policy prescriptions. A little caution makes great sense in such a volatile environment.

But this much is already clear: We do have an enormous opportunity to consolidate and expand freedom's gains and, at the same time, to enhance America's security and economic potential.

If the new democracies and free market economies fail, the long-term costs to America will be enormous. But if they succeed, it will mean that the United States could enjoy increased security, reduced defence budgets and armament levels and expanded markets for our exports and our ingenuity. Simply put, there is no

By Ralph Boulton

EAST BERLIN - The East

German army is booting its old

Communist masters out of the

barracks and ditching the clock-

work Prussian discipline that

made it the pride of the Warsaw

that sent a chill through fore-

igners but delighted the country's

old Stalinist leaders fell early

victim to the march of "people

power." Now the entire army is

in the grip of a barracks revolu-

has been turned on its head for

us," said a young border guard

idling by a hole in the Berlin Wall

been court-martialled for talking

across the wall like this. We were

an elite troop and expected to

stepping parades, considered by

many a daunting echo of Ger-

many's militarist past, was

announced by the new defence

minister, Theodor Hoffmann, in

November, "Parades for self-

glorification are not necessary,"

he said in a newspaper interview.

camp in early January after sol-

diers throughout the country

went on strike against stifling

down, he announced a cut in

compulsory military service from

18 to 12 months, an easing of

Fearful of a complete break-

discipline.

Hoffmann rushed to an army

The plan to end the goose-

show total discipline," he said.

"Not so long ago we could have

and watching the West go by.

"In three months, the world

The goose-stepping parades

better investment we can make in America in 1990 than finding ways to support the new democracies.

That's the good news. The bad news is that supporting freedom is not free. It will cost bucks — big bucks. And we must find those bucks within the constraints of our own crushing budget deficits and a foreign aid budget that is already stretched to the break-

ing point. We may be able to increase marginally our overall foreign aid expenditures. But the reality is that we are not going to have much more foreign aid money in the next few years, at least until the so-called peace dividend kicks in (if it ever materialises).

The immediate answer must include reallocation of what we are spending on foreign aid

Let me make this point clear: am certainly not suggesting abandoning or short-changing our long-time friends around the world. They remain very important to us, and their needs are just as real and pressing as those of the new democracies.

What I am suggesting is to re-examine some of the huge aid programmes in a few coun-

regulations to allow soldiers to go

out in the evening without uni-

Discontent ran deep in the

"You don't find any motivated

soldiers here. How can anyone be

surprised if we don't understand

the point of being a soldier any

more?" one army unit said in a

letter to the forces newspaper

Hoffmann moved quickly to

purge the leadership and gave

swift marching orders to Com-

munist Party appointees - so-

called politicial officers — who

formed a parallel command, de-

ciding anything from high

strategy to the times of sports

"The party will be out of the

barracks within a week. All camp

Communist organisations are

being dissolved," defence minis-

try spokesman Lieutenant Col-

empty exhortions are replaced by

posters of opposition groups that

in October engineered the peace-

ful overthrow of the old Com-

in the making — a virtual blas-

phemy against the spirit that

Even a soldiers' trade union is

On the barracks notice board,

onel Uwe Hempel said.

munist order.

fixinges.

people's army last month.

form and more home leave.

**East German army** 

boots Communism

out of the barracks

tries — the so-called earmarked countries — that take most of our current aid budget. Right now, the big five -Israel, Egypt, the Philippines, Turkey and Pakistan - receive more than two-thirds of our foreign aid.

Does it make sense, at this historic moment, to provide these countries practically all of our aid at the cost of foreclosing dramatically promising new aid. initiatives in Eastern Europe or other important countries? What about, for example, those Latin American nations in the front lines in the war against drugs?

Consider this sample fact: A five per cent cut in current aid programmes for the big five would provide about \$330 million — enough to respond to the needs of new democracies such as Poland, Hungary, Panama and countless needy countries that under current allocations will receive not one penny

of American aid. Perhaps an even larger across-the-board cut and reallocation would be warranted, as the democratic revolution gains momentum. That would represent a better balancing of our limited resources with our changing priorities.

No doubt, these proposed Teallocations will raise a hue and cry. But can't we convince

shaped the old "army of

at the doors of the officers' mess.

Plans are afoot to purge uniforms

of the clutter of braid and decora-

tions that has run rampant in

Every time a new embellishment

was introduced, officers

groaned," Hempel said.

camp life are also over.

military theory.

"It wasn't what we wanted.

Back in the ranks, the harsher

physical excesses of cold war

The bane of the soldier's life.

the early-morning run, has been

banished and soldiers are left

more free time. No more the

dismal hours of Marxist-Leninist

"It's a relief not to have politic-

instruction any more and

wonderful to go out in the even-

ings without uniform," the sol-

dier at the wall said, puffing on an

American cigarette passed

to the front of the queue for a

disco. But once in there, no girl

man is now even allowed to wear

a moustache — providing he

grows it while on leave - or shun

"Our uniforms allowed us to go

The fashion-conscious service-

through by an Italian girl.

would look at us."

recent years.

The revolution has not stopped

our friends who would "lose" a tiny amount of their aid how much it is in their interest, too, to help insure against the failure of new democracies and free-market economies?

Can't those pressure groups that have turned some of our foreign aid programme virtually into "entitlement programmes" realise that making some minor adjustments in aid allocations can simultaneously serve the countries of their special interest, and serve America?

And can't my colleagues in Congress, who have forced the president to swallow a few huge carmarked aid programmes, stand up to domestic political pressure and resist the temptation to politicise foreignaid? Can't they instead support an amended foreign aid strategy that more completely serves the national interest?

Even despite congressionally mandated aid programmes, the president has the authority to make the small allocations of foreign aid that I believe are warranted. I encourage him to consider seriously making those reallocations now. I stand neady to work hard to insure that the Congress and the American public will back him up.

To me, it boils down to this: Are big gains for freedom worth a small cut in a few huge foreign aid programmes? I say

the barracks canteen and eat out

spirit of the times, the title of

comrade has been dropped from

protocol. Comrade sergeant-ma-

jor has become plain old herr

"The atmosphere has changed.

The 173,000-strong force will

probably be cut back to around

120,000 over the next few years,

months has taken a heavy toll on

drafted into the civilian sector,

driving trucks, working in baker-

ies, helping in hospitals and

labouring at docks. The flight of

hundreds of thousands of people

to the West has left labour shor-

In the ports of Rostock and

Mukran, Soviet forces have also

been called in to keep the eco-

nomy going. Mosocw has kept

some 380,000 troops in East Ger-

many since World War II, though

about 20,000 are due for with-

drawal under unilateral Kremlin

cuts. The onset of a harsh winter

could make the army's problems

specialists left to keep all our

equipment in order. This means

our readiness is not as high as it

NATO attack is not so likely at

might be," Hempel said.

the moment."

'We just don't have enough

But we're reckoning that a

The upheaval of the last three

Some 50,000 servicemen have

What we're aiming at now is

smaller, more efficient army.

Colonel Hempel commented.

In a further concession to the

at the local cafe.

sergeant-major again.

he said

the force.

tages everywhere.

AFRICA ALGERIA WESTERN Bir Moghrein SAHARA Zouérate F Dérick Atar Nouadhibou Akjoujt

## Mauritania, Senegal prepare for talks

Kaédi

MAURITANIA

Tidjikja Aloun-el-

Kiffa

Atrouss

Néma

By Jean-Loup Fievet

NOUAKCHOTT — Gunfire echoes uninously across the river border between Mauritania and Senegal, a menacing background sound at a time of hushed peace nomic future of two of the world's talks between the two west African nations.

NOUAKCHOT

Western diplomats said the simmering 10-month border conflict had worsened despite discreet mediation by Egypt, whose President Hosni Mubarak is currently chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

"Sporadic shelling between the two armies has become common across the river. But the most worrying is the recent escalation in the use of weapons — heavy guns and guns have now replaced light rifles and sub-machine guns," one diplomat familiar with

the region said. Secret talks in Paris earlier this month came after the first casual- der was a serious provocation. ty was reported from the two ..... He suggested an end to hostile armies facing each other across media propaganda, removal of the shallow river Senegal — a Senegalese soldier killed in shell-tion of divided families, return of ing of a border village by property left across the border or Mauritanian forces.

incidents involving troops have river. been reported.

Diplomats said the Paris talks were to pave the way for further talks there later this month, but neither government has confirmed that they took place.

The talks would be the first direct contact between the two countries since a brief meeting of interior ministers last June at the border town of Rosso to swap stranded cattle.

ministerial level in neighbouring Mati failed to resolve the conflict, which started with a minor dispute over grazing rights at the frontier and led to ethnic riots and a flood of refugees in both directions.

Both governments appear keen to play down the current tension along their 800-km long border. Senegal river.

"Neither Maurintania nor Senegal could really expose themselves to ridicule and afford going to war. After all, the ecopoorest nations is at stake," a Mauritanian official told Reuters. 455 P

MOROCCO

Senegal and Mauritania severed diplomatic links in August after communal violence killed hundreds of people and uprooted thousands in April and May. The conflict has revived ancient rivalries between black Senegal and mostly Arab Mauritania.

Mauritania has accused Senegal of fanning tension by sending and arming gangs of cattle raiders across the river and denied that artillery such as mortars, machine its own regular army had been sent to the border.

Mauritanian Information Minister Mohammad Lemine Ould Ahmad said deployment of the Senegalese army on the bortroops from the border, remificafinancial compensation and a Since then, at least two other halt to armed raids across the

> "Any agreement which does not take these elements of detente into account would be misleading," the minister warned.

The release last weekend in Novakchott of 23 Senegalese fishermen arrested in July inside Mauritanian territorial waters is an encouraging sign, diplomats in the region said.

Senegal says all the waters are Two previous rounds of talks at Senegalese, basing its claim on a 1933 French colonial decree saying the international border lies along the northern bank of

Mauritania disputes the claim, saying the waters are governed by international law under a 1972 agreement which created a regional water authority for the

## LETTERS.

### To the Editor. IN THE past few weeks I have

had the opportunity of having to finish up a few official documents from several government departments and I have found out what a great pleasure it was besides being a great way to keep fit (running up and down dozens of stairs, walking into many offices and ending up nowhere, etc..). I also found out the most beloved phrases that government

examples are: - Come back tomorrow (next week, next month, etc..). — The person who has to sign

employees love to utter, a few

this is not here today. - Who sent you to this office next day anyway. anyway? — Go to (somewhere clear

across town). - Can't you see that I am busy? If I want to answer each and every person's question, I'll never get any work done.

The ultimate one I heard was: - You need directions? Then stand in line and then ask me. So I decided to write this article just to give people who haven't had this wonderful experience a bit of advice on what to expect

(or not to expect). with a smile because that is truly wishful thinking.

the right office the first time have fun.

### Have fun!

dor to ask you what your problem is, is actually going to help you; he/she just likes to know what peoples problems are. 4 Never expect the typist who

has to type your letter to do it in one day, can't you see she's busy? 5- Never expect the peroson who has to sign the letter to be there, he will probably be sick, on leave, in a meeting, or he didn't show up today. 6- Don't be silly enough to

think that government employees work till 2 p.m., for if the person you're looking for is still in his office after 1 p.m., then he's probably having an important; conversation with his colleague. and you'll have to come back the

7- "Come back early tomor to finish up your papers". Do not believe this, because he won't be there

the next day, and even if he was, he won't remember you anyway. 8- Please don't get mad if the whole file you're working on gets lost somewhere along the way and you have to start all over again; this is just normal routine again; this is just normal routine

just to give people who haven't had this wonderful experience a bit of advice on what to expect (or not to expect).

1- Never expect to be greeted with a smile because that is truly wishful thinking.

2- Never expect to be sent to the right office the first time around.

Do not expect the employee who just stopped you in the corri
Mazen Dajani

Amman.

## After 50 years in exile, Albanian king still dreams of going home

By Greg Myre The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa - From a rustic suburban house with a yard full of overgrown weeds, the man who would be Albania's king dreams of a return to the homeland he scarce-

ly knows.

King Leka I, an exile for all his 50 years, says he believes the wildfires of reform elsewhere in Eastern Europe will ignite long-isolated Albania, the region's last hard-line Stalinist

If a revolution comes, Leka says he would be proud to follow. the footsteps of his father, the self-made monarch King Zog L But if the people don't want a king, he says, he'd settle for the chance to return to the country he was spirited out of in 1939 to escape invading Italian troops.

He was just three days old. Since then, Leka has lived in seven countries. He speaks eight languages, and says he has learned to feel at home "wherever I have my family and my

Even so, he says: "My only home is Albania." Leka's father, the head of an Albanian clan, became Albania's prime minister in 1922, when he was still in his 20s. In 1928, the national assembly gave

"prince," according to Burke's Royal Families of London. However, Zog proclaimed himself "His Majesty King Zog I," and the country's constitution called for his son to succeed him.

him a title that translated into

Zog died in France in 1961, and Leka was sworn in by the Albaman government-in-exile.

The would-be king is an imposing 6 feet 8 inches (2.1 metres) tall, with glasses and a full head of graying hair. For a meeting at his home, he

wears a pistol and a combat knife, and his military-style shirt has an Albanian crest pinned on his collar. His office walls are covered with fading maps and flags of Albania.

Last month. Leka called on Albanians inside and outside the country to rise up against "the tyrannical and atheist regime that has for so long misruled our beloved homeland."

He said the statement was broadcast into Albania from radio stations in Yugoslavia's Kosovo region, home to many ethnic Albanians, and also has been reported on Radio Moscow and Voice of America.

Albania's Communist Party chief Ramiz Alia has resisted reforms in the rigidly controlled nation, the poorest and most rural in Europe. The country has been largely cut off from the outside world since the Communists came to power in 1946 under Enver Hoxha, who raied until his death in 1985.

The Albanian Communist Party daily newspaper, Zeri I Populit, recently accused Albanian exiles of trying to foment an uprising that would bring Leka I to power. There have been uncon-

firmed Yugoslav press reports of unrest in Albania, which the Albanian government has de-

Leka concedes that more than four decades of repressive rule will make it difficult to mobilise opposition forces. But he and his supportes have offices in France and elsewhere in Europe, and maintain clandestine contacts with government and military figures disgruntled with the Communist leadeship, he said.

Because Albania is such a closed society, there is no accurate measure of Leka's support. But he believes he could serve as a unifying force among Albanians opposed to Communist rule, and is confident of his stature despite his family's long absence.

He points proudly to one of the

final speeches made by Hoxha before his death in 1985, in which he says Hoxha called him a drug smuggler, a gun-runner and a trader in women. "When your opponent insults

you like that, he must see you as a threat," he said. "I took it as a great compliment."

During his exile, Leka's backers have included late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, the late Shah of Iran, Saudi Arabia's King Faisal and Belgium's King Baudouin. He paid tribute to them by

naming his son Leka Anwar Zog

Reza Baudouin, and has taught the boy, now 8, to consider himself crown prince. Leka has used his contacts to

support himself as a businessman,

nians who live outside the country, a number almost equal to those within. Leka and his Australian-born wife, Queen Susan, left Spaion in 1979 when Communist states put pressure on the Madrid government. He claims the Albanian government, worried about his

exporting minerals and heavy

machinery to the Middle and Far

East. He also travels extensively

to maintain contacts with the

estimated 3 million ethnic Alba-

support inside and outside his homeland, instigated the A year later, the couple rented a ranch-style house at the end of a dirt road in the far northern suburbs of Johannesburg, intending to remain only six months. But Leka has stayed on ever

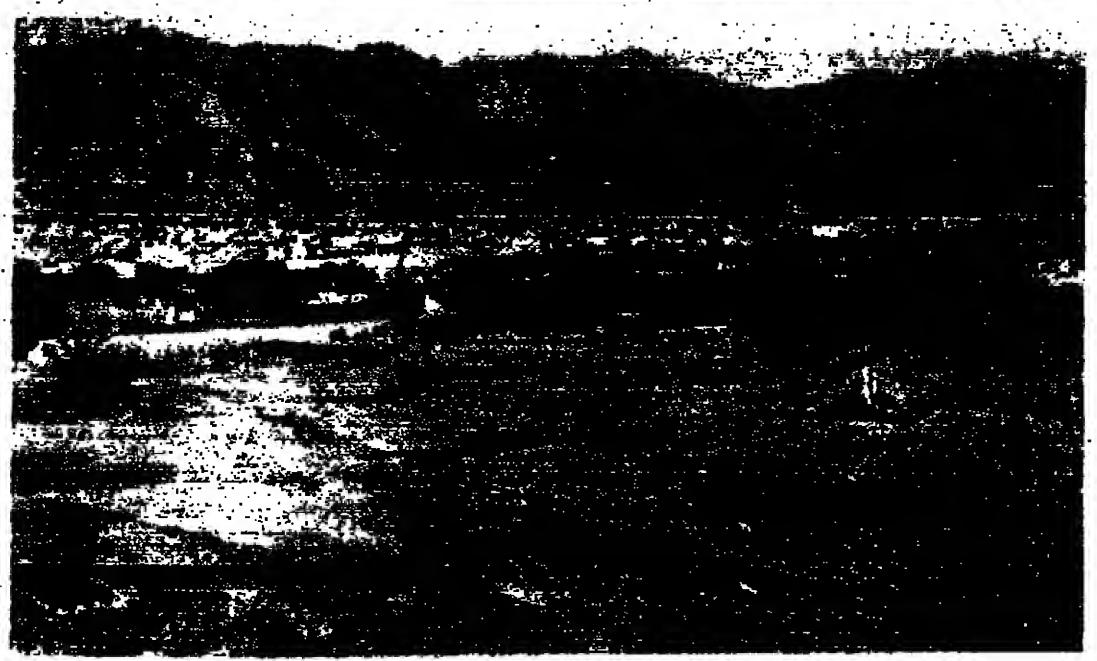
There are five dogs and a rusting pickup truck outside. Inside, a weapons collection includes blowpipes from New Guinea, a rhino-hide shield from Ethiopia, long-handled swords from Thailand and Zulu spears.

His favourites, Leka says, are a pistol given to him by his father and helmets from Iran that he says date back to the Crusades. As for his own crusade, Leka can do little more than hope and

"It has been difficult to wear several different hats — to try to be a businessman and lead a normal family life and to head an opposition movement," he says. But Leka's belief in his birthright is unwavering.

"I am the king in exile," he said, "and I believe one day I will

who just stopped you in the corri- Amman.



## Nice place, lousy service

By Nor Sati Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Mr. and Mrs. Dopost who come from a small village in northern France, decided to invest their boliday mood into an exotic new place. Having acquirod all reading material and advertisements, and after long hours of contemplation they decided on Aqaba. As a first trip to the Middle East, they were enthusiastic towards an eventful holiday. But, as they were soon to discover, vision was truly de-CCIVING.

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It was on their second day in Agaba that the Duponts concluded that "not only are the prices high, but spending money is not a pleasure." They explained that boteliers neglected them by portraying carelessness and providing bad service. They say the food was inedible and the hotel room was unhygienic. To top it all the hotel was graded as a tour star.

Ministry of Tourism Secretary General Nasri Attalah, says that such accusations are seldom heard by his ministry. "Every time I send inspectors to Agaba, they come back reporting everything to be in tip-top condition. But, pondering moments over this, he admitted that government empolyoes are not very good judges of tourist services.

Mohammad Aslour, chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, says that the lack of proper touristic services is a social problem. "Jordanians do not accept the idea of serving others and thos look at serving as a degrading

Aqaba, one of the most beautiful areas and Jordan's only beach resort, is having its image destroved because concerned authorities are unable to coordinate and implement suitable services. specialist in the field observe. Not only does this affect international tourism to the country, but local tourists also voice complaints. They say their experience is not different, especially when they try to book in one of the "better hotels.

Three young Jordanians, unable to travel abroad, settled for a holiday in Aqaba, but, while trying to find a room "we constantly received the same reply -"sorry we're fully booked this week," one said. They later discovered that the hotels were actually quite empty! "Why would hoteliers deceive their local tourists in this manner?" one of the distressed young men asked.

Attaigh observes that because of higher prices for international tourists, the hoteliers prefer to have rooms occupied by foreigners rather than locals.

The Duponts expressed their admiration of the Red Sea, its picturesque coral reefs, under the sea reddish-purple mountains which and the pastel-like colours of the sunset. But, despite all the nature surrounding them, they wanted something more.

"There are no activities nor entertainment at any hour of the day neither for children nor adults," the Duponts say.

A hidden displeasure sneaked through their eyes when the Duponts were asked about water skiing. "We paid four Jordanian dinars for a meagre three minutes. The boat is old and the skis are in terrible condition." Most importantly, they exclaimed, the driver was unprofessional.

Attalah agreed that the Aquamarina, being the only ski facility, neglects its equipment due to lack of competition.

As long as people keep skiiing — who cares?

Asfour suggested that the problem derives from "Jordanians not being oriented to accept tourists and their desires for their own concept of fun." We adds that while there are some who are not oriented to accept tourists, there are others who are not sea-oriented and thus are not capable of grasping the prospect of Aqaba as a sea resort and

therefore promote it accordingly.

Aqaba should be the place for people to spend their vacations. But, alas, despite all its natural to lack initiative.

Attalah confirmed that it is difficult for the ministry to tackle the problems unless complaints come directly to them.

But, a concerned Jordanian argues that "the ministry need not wait for complaints in order to make some moves. The probleans of Agaba are visible; the fact that tourism has sharply declined and the occupancy rate is only 35 per cent is proof enough that Agaba is becoming a dis-

Assour insisted that the Ministry of Tourism is unable to solve Agaba's shortcomings on its own and suggested that the solution ties in opoperation between the government and the private secfor through the chamber of com-

Already, Asfour declared that Royal Jordanian (RJ) had established offices worldwide in order to promote Jordan at the international level and arrange for

attractions, Aqubs is suffering chartered flights with special because concerned parties seem packages directly into Aqaba's interntional airport. Asfour adds that Jordan is working towards attracting international com-

> believe that the Chamber of commerce has to work hard in collaboration with the public sector to provide basic elements for attracting foreign investment." Artalah agrees adding that the Ministry of Tourism is drawing plans to improve the situation by attending conferences and exhibitions abroad, advertising and

panies to invest in Agaba. "We

issuing pamphlets, to promote

Many tourists like the Duponts say that although they expected more out of Agaba, it is nevertheless beautiful in terms of its nature and archaeological surroundings. But the Duponts say, "it is not enough," and hope that with the authorities taking new measures Agaba would prosper in the future, but for the time being "we do not think of coming

## Spirit cult market defies Brazil's economic slump

By Todd Lewan The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — In Ricardo Conceição Lima's store, dried but wings are a big seller. So are devil statues, baby snakes and deer antier shavings. Lately there's been a run on mystical African incense, said to attract

Lima's spirit-cult supply store, tucked away in the corne of a musty indoor market in Rio's poor northern zone, has a steady and loval clientele.

While many retailers are struggling to stay afloat amid 1,765-per cent inflation and soaring interest rates, Lima says business is good and getting better.

"Since March our sales have jumped 50 per cent," he said. "The tougher times get, the bet-

Lima is one of thousands of merchant who cater to Brazil's legions of spirit-cult worshippers. An estimated 90 million of the nation's 150 million people follow African voodoo-style cults, generally lumped together under the term Macumba and descended from Yoruba and Bantu

religions practiced by slaves. Over the centuries the cults freely borrowed elements of Roman Catholicism, native Indian faiths and European witchcraft. They are now uniquely Brazilian, and have spread among all races and classes.

"Brazilians have lost faith in their leaders and are turning to spiritual means of solving their problems. Artists, businessmen, politicians — everyone has a band in it," said Paulo Coelho, a magician and author of several books on magic.

Most cult-article buyers are the poor who inhabit urban shantytown slums, jumbles of shacks lining dirt tracks with no plumbing or runnig water.

But a growing number of customers are middle- and upperclass Brazilians seeking help for emotional or financial troubles: Businessmen worried by inflation, women upset when their grown children leave home, unemployed college graduates frustrated with a shrinking job

At the heart of this phenomenon is the belief that many illnesses, economic headaches and romantic setbacks have a spiritual origin — and the same goes for good luck.

"I used to be just a manicurist," said Sonia de Oliveira, a 46-year-old Rio housewife. "But when I became a believer, my whole life improved. Now I have a car, a house and I don't have to work for anyone."

About 85 per cent of Brazilians profess to be Roman Catholics. But many see no conflict in spiritcult belief as well.

To Tap the market, some merchants have switched from peddling household wares and clothes to hawking cult articles. Manuel Felgueiras Pontes gave up his fish stand to open a voodoo shop three years ago.

"I knew a lot of peorle would rather practice Macumba than eat." he said, "So I switched, I'm not sorry I did."

For the voodoo bargain hunter, the market in Madureira district. on Rio's north zone, is the place to shop. Some 37 of the 350 shops in this winding, shadowy market feature black magic items. All the visitor needs is a fat wallet and a strong stomach.

Outside the Oxala Tecidos shop, a life-sized Mannequin representing the spirit deity Exu is clad in a black top hat, boots and velvet cloak, holding a trident

Africans believed Exu was the principle of change, movement and fertility. But under the influence of Roman Cathelicism, Exu in Brazil became a devil.

This particular Exu is called Marabo, an entity said to bring financial success. His cape costs \$80. The boots are \$145; the trident \$45.

At the nearby Odo-Ya Voodoo shop, toads used to cast evil spells go for \$25. Duck feet cost a mere \$4. Elephant tails, seashell necklaces and dried ears of corn used to ward off evil spirits range from \$1 to \$15. A bar of black, tar-like soap to wash away negative fluids goes for \$6.50. It's imported from

Short on cash? No problem. Proprietor Antonio Heleno accepts all major credit cards.

Heleno takes special pride in a collection of dull brown rocks sitting in ceramic bowls of water on the floor. Their magical properties are protected in blessed water, he explained. This week he's running a special sale - \$3 per rock.

Next door, animals are sold for sacrificial rituals, a controversial but widely tolerated practice.

The chickens' head, feet, wingtips and tail, said to hold the "axe" (ah-sheh) or magical force are cut off in an age-old African ritual. Goats, stabbed in the neck during rituals, sell for \$3 a kilo.

Some object to the cult worship, especially sacrifices, but moves to ban such practices have not worked.

Last July, Rio councilman Wilson Leite Passos called for a law prohibiting animal sacrifice. Some 280 cult leaders clad in white lace, turbans and glassbead and tooth necklaces gathereed on the steps of city hall and threatened to cast a spell over each councilman.

The Bill was quietly withdrawn.

Professional magicians argue that magical powers don't come pre-packaged.

## Focus on People

### One man's crusade

By Mariam M. Shahin

DREAMS ARE only for the young, the 'unexposed', the 'unrealistic', right? Wrong! having dreams and aspirations is not a monopoly of the young. When time and circumstances proved to be appropriate retired Captain Arsian Ramadan turned age and experience to his advantage and fulfilled his dreams of recording Jordan's natural peauty, its habitat and wildlife in impressive publications. This week Arslan Ramadan talks to Focus on people about his life his publications and his plans for the future.

While children often have dreams of grandeur and glory, Ramadan, the child had no particular ambitions. "I grew up in Amman of the 1930's and 40's. There was no electricity, no running water. Life was very simple and uncomplicated. All we thought about as children was playing and being mischivious. We were wild children. My father died when I was seven and my mother always pushed me to study and become a learned man. I played when I was supposed to be studying. When all else failed she decided she would send me to a 'strict', good school, so she sent me to Al Najah in Nablus," Ramadan recalls. As he speaks he turns around to speak to his mother in Circassian, the language of his forfathers, apparently to remind her of the time that he is recalling while telling his

Ramadan lives with his mother in a cosy house in Bayadar Wadi Seer, an area where Circassians settled but which is now inhabited by Arabs and Circussians alike. The women in his life are very important to him as is apparent in his dedication of his books, one was to his mother, the other to his late wife. The house is full of antiquities, old books, framed old stamps and photographs of the birds of Jordan

After tea, Ramadan recalled the 1940's, "So I went to Najah, Although I did not enjoy studying, I enjoyed one particular teacher, his name was Abdul Rahim Mahmoud. He was a known Palestinian poet and his classes were my favourite. While I may have failed in all my studies. I excelled in poetry and that's why my teacher liked me as I liked him. I had to leave Nablus after one year because disturbances increased and I wanted to return to Jordan to enlist in the army. There was one thing I took back with me that was more permanent than all the rest; it was the love and respect for nationhood.

Ramadan returned to Amman to join the armed forces and asked to be sent to Palestine to fight against the Zionists. Because he was educated and had clerical skills he said the army stationed him in Ramallah where he worked as a message ticker and so "unfortunately I was never in cambat". His teacher, the poet, was killed in the war of 1948, and that made Ramadan sad

After the war Ramadan returned to Amman and stayed in the army. In 1957 at the rank of captain he retired. Between 1957 and 1975 Ramadan served as a Royal escort at the Royal palaces. His tenior he says "taught me about brave and courages men who could handle any situation". The army was "a school, a college and a university combined. Serving His Majesty the King Hussein was beyond that, it was 'the' school of life," he recalls. Ramadan's contact with nature started as a hunter. He later realised that he was in fact "destroying part of nature" and instead began to "hunt" document it through photographs and information gathering.

"In the 1960's I remember two Englishmen who came to visit the Royal Court to present His Majesty with books they had written about Jordan. His Majesty was very pleased and appreciated their work. I remember feeling — well — jelouse. I did not want to deny the gentlemen their work, but I remembered what my teacher had taught me and I felt it a shame that a foreigner was capable of writing beautiful books about Jordan while I was not," Ramadan says. He made a promise to himself that one day he would also write beautiful books about Jordan.

In 1975 Ramadan retired from the Royal Court and started travelling abroad, something he had never done before, he visited England, Germany, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Syria and Egypt. "While travelling I learned many things. First of all I was impressed by

the way people took care of their historical monuments and how they documented every part of their countries' past and present so carefully. I also found out that many old paintings and books about Jordan could be found, in particular in London. Things I had never heard of or seen. Some of the travelogues that I found where from the last century and some were even older than that." Ramadan recalls.

"I began buying books, photoraphs, paintings, coins, stamps; anything that was old about Jordan I bought. I decided to compile a photo book depicting Jordan and Palestine at the beginning of the century. Since I already had a lot of material I proposed the idea to Crown Prince Hassan who welcomed the idea and also was forthcoming with the financial aid that I needed at the time. In 1981 'Photographs from Jordanian and Palestinian Heritage' was published. Ten thousand copies were printed. Now I have only four left," Ramadan says with a grin of satisfaction.

For the next eight years Ramadan continued to visit London and buy more books and other treasures. Before publishing his heritage book, Ramadan had already brought back 340 old books to Jordan. While bringing back books and paintings is rewarding, it is also increasingly expensive and he eventually sold most of his books to the libraries of the universities of Yarmonk and Mutaa and to individuals.

"Many Jordanians came to me to buy paintings, photographs, stamps, books and coins. I was obliged to sell because I wanted to buy more. I was not unhappy about selling the things to people here because after all I had brought these things back to Jordan to be enjoyed by Jordanians," Ramadan says.

Ramadan got many ideas from his travels. A book entitled Ancient and Modern Rome provided the idea for his next book: "Amman Yesterday and Today," published in 1983. Subsequently a touristic book about Jordan, "The Land of Jordan" was published in 1988.

"Now I have my next book ready. I have been working on it for the last years and have travelled over 200,000 kilometres to gather the information. It is called The Birds of Jordan and I probably consider this my masterpiece. I photographed birds in their natural habitat. I read 200 books about birds in the last five years. I feel I'm an expert on birds at this point. I am also compiling a schoolbook for children about the birds of Jordan so they can learn to appreciate what we have in this country."

property against his debt to the banks. He has already started work on two other photographic books. One is about the Jordanian desert and the other about Jerusalem. Asked about his plans for the future he says "I had a dream to present His Majesty with a book on Jordan. So far I have presented him with three and more are to come."

Ramadan admits that he is broke. A court order has seized his wife's

## Rare Siberian cranes could be war's unlikely victims

By Vijay Joshi The Associated Press

BHARATPUR, India — The marshes of western ladia are the favourise wintering ground of the rare siberian crane, a majestic and mysterious bird with a white body, a red beak and a haunting

But fewer and fewer of the birds are being sighted, and some wildlife watchers fear they have become unlikely casualties of war, dying in the skies over

Only 17 cranes arrived this winter in the Keoladeo national perk at Bharstpur, once a duckshooting preserve of maharajahs and now a sanctuary for more than 400 bird species.

V.S. Vijayan, a scientist with the Bombay Natural History Society who has been working at Bharatour, said last season there were 24 cranes, and 31 the season

before that. Like the Afghanistan war itself, the puzzle of the Siberian crance has its partisans.

The theory that the birds are falling victim to Afghan gunners

ornithologist. Some Indian wildlife officials and environmentalists agree. But a Soviet scientist has rejected the theory.

Indian officials also said recurring drought in Bharatpur may be contributing to the decline.

Orinthologists know little about the cranes, which fly from their breeding ground in the tundras of western Siberia to Bharatpur in India's western Rajasthan state. It is a journey of more than 5,000 kilometres, and takes about a

A smaller flock migrates to Iran. The two flocks leave their Siberian home in the Ob river valley in September or October, just as the snow begins to fall. They return in late February or early March.

The India-bound flock probably makes only two stopovers -in Soviet Kazhakistan and Afghanistan, according to Vladimir Flint, head of the Soviets' animal protection department at the All-Union Research Institute of Nature Conservation and Reserves in Moscow.

There are no precise estimates of the number of western Siberian cranes. Harris put the figure was advanced by an American

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at fewer than 50 altogether, but other estimates place it as high as

There is very little data about the birds. We hardly know anything about them except that they fly over Iran and Afghanistan to the marshes here." Flint said in an interview at Bharatpur.

"And there are a lot of people with guns in Afghanistan who are waiting to pull the trigger," said Jim Harris, deputy director of the International Crane Foundation based in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

Since the birds are safe from humans in the inaccessible Siberian tundras and in the sanctuary at Bharatpur, it is likely they are being killed during migration, Harris said.

But Flint, whose Soviet countrymen ended their nine-year military intervention in Afghanistan a year ago, said: "I do not agree that the birds are being killed over Afghanistan. Our next goal is to know the whole migration route and the dangers they

However, Prakash gole, head of the Ecological Society based in Poona, India, agreed that Siberian cranes may be dying in

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cranes were shot and sold for meat in Afghanistan even before the war erupted between the Soviet-backed government and U.S.-supported Muslim guer-

Afghanistan. He said other

Harris also said a dead Siberian crane turned up last year at a local meat market in Pakistan. Flint. Harris and Gole came to

Bharatour at the invitation of the Bombay Natural History Society after attending a conference on cranes in neighbouring Gujarat

The freshwater marsh at Bharatpur, about 50 kilometres west of the Taj Mahai, was declared a shooting preserve for local maharajas and British colonial rulers in 1902. Bird hunting was outlawed here in 1972, and the marsh was declared a national park in 1981.

The park's director, K.L. Saini, said the Afghanistan theory is an interesting one. "But it is highly likely that the frequent droughts in the area may be the main reason for their decreasing number," he said.

"Until about eight years ago

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which kept the marsh alive and produced enough food for the Another set of cranes.

we used to have regular floods

apparently the same species as the western Siberian crane, breeds in eastern Siberia and migrates to China in winter. The eastern Siberian cranes are believed to number at least 1,400 Like the western cranes, they are considered endangered species.

Flint said the Soviets have begun studies to genetically compare the two types of birds. "But my guess is there will be no difference," he said. The declining crane migration

is of concern not only naturalists. Those who earn their living by conducting tours of the sanctuary are worried too. Udai Singh gives one-day tours costing \$100 for Western tour

groups and 125 rupees, or \$7.35, for Indian groups. "Everyone comes to Bharatpur to see the Siberian cranes," Singh said. "And when they stop coming here, even the tourists will stop ... I guess we will have to close shop.

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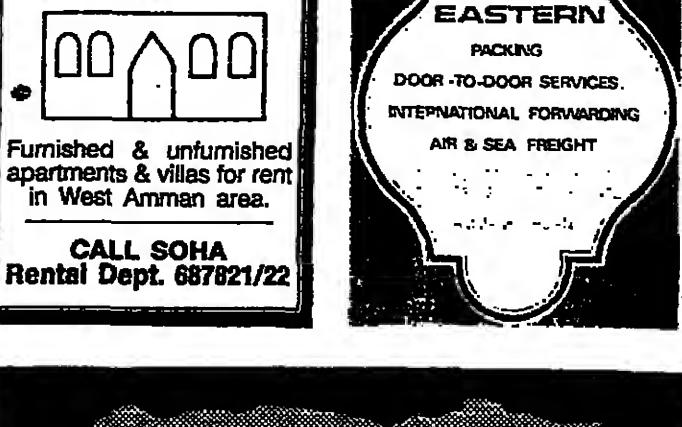


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## Bush administration wants Australia changes in foreign aid

WASHINGTON (R) — The Bush administration said Tuesday it wanted greater flexibility in distribution of foreign aid to such traditional allies as Israel so that it could pour more cash into Eastern Europe and other nations.

The White House and State Department issued statements calling for greater adaptability in response to a proposal from Senate Republican leader Robert to trim aid for Israel, Egypt, the Philippines, Turkey and Pakistan and use the money in Eastern Europe.

"It's something that the administration thinks is well worth looking at in order to give us the very flexibility...in light of, let's take for instance, the unbelievable changes that have gone on in Eastern Europe," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret

Around two thirds of all U.S.

aid is usually reserved for those five countries with around one third going to Israel and Egypt. But administration spokesmen said such earmarking tied President George Bush's hands in conducting foreign policy. The foreign aid budget is about \$14 billion

Tutwiler said Secretary of State James Baker had discussed the issue with Dole and expected to talk with other congressional leaders soon.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater declined to discuss individual countries as aid recipients but said the administration wanted to see the system of aid distribution changed.

"It goes to our general concern about the prerogatives of the president in making foreign policy decisions, and about our need to be flexible in terms of moving money from one country to another where needs may arise on short notice," he said.

Dole said in a New York Times opinion column that a five per cent cut in aid to the top five recipients would free \$330 million for "the needs of new democra-

Israel and other countries have recently expressed fears that their positions as prime aid recipients could be eroded by the changes sweeping Eastern Europe.

Tutwiler said other regions also were clamouring for more U.S. aid. Those include Panama whose economy was devastated after last month's U.S. invasion and drug-producing countries in South America.

Czechoslovak Deputy Finance

Minister Frantisek Pavelka told

the official Czechoslovak news

agency CTK that this had been

agreed almost unanimously by

Comecon's standing commission

"According in convertible or

for foreign currency questions.

national currencies will be intro-

duced in the shortest possible

The commission also agreed

that real foreign exchange rates

influenced by market conditions

would start to be used, but Pavel-

ka said it wanted this brought in

transition to conditions existing in

world trade will start," CTK

Comecon prime ministers,

meeting in Sofia last week

agreed to switch their trade gra-

dually on to a basis of hard

currency accounting and world

WASHINGTON (AP) — The

U.S. foreign trade deficit wide-

ned in November to \$10.5 billion,

its worst showing in 11 months,

the government reported

said that while imports declined

by \$593 million to \$40.69 billion,

U.S. exports dropped a larger

\$843 million to \$30.19 billion.

The trade deficit is the difference

The government blamed much

between imports and exports.

The Commerce Department

quoted him as saying.

"From next January, a gradual

time," he said.

gradually.

market prices.

Wednesday.

## Top Soviet economist eyes stock, commodity markets

THE HAGUE (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev's top economic advisor said Tuesday Moscow should abolish state ownership of industry and create stock and commodity markets as part of a drive to rescue the moribund Soviet economy.

"The last we should do to make the transition to the market mechanism is to dismantle the state ownership system," Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Abalkin said in a speech at an East-West conference in The Hague.

Another condition for Moscow's planned move towards a market economy was "to establish the relevant infrastructure such as commodity and stock markets," he said without elabor-

Abalkin rejected charges of foot-dragging on economic reforms, saying none of the conditions was in place to abolish the Soviet system of central economic

"So far not a single condition has been met," said Abalkin, who was in the Netherlands on a 36-hour visit for talks with Prime Minister Rund Lubbers and Dutch businessmen.

"That means that there can be no place for a developed market of any kind as yet," said Abalkin,

new six-year economic reform programme approved by parliament last month.

Abalkin warned time was running out for Gorbachev's policies if shops did not fill up by the end of 1990, and Moscow's top priority was to boost imports of food, consumer goods, pharmaceuticals as well as raw materials and machinery.

"This must be achieved before the end of the year. It will not be an overstatement to say that not only the prestige of the government but the destiny of perestroika depends on success in this area," he said.

But the Soviet Union was also looking at long-term cooperation with industry in the West, especially in Europe which accounts for 80 per cent of Soviet foreign trade, he said.

"The Soviet Union has a lot to offer its partners in the West. particularly in the light of the conversion of military production and the lifting of secrecy in many areas." he said.

Comecon agrees to aim for early currency convertibility

Meanwhile, Comecon finance ministers agreed Tuesday that the Soviet-led trading bloc should in- U.S. trade deficit widens by \$10.5b radical economist whose ideas troduce accounting in convertible formed the basis for Moscow's or national currencies as soon as

U.S. dollars

Canadian dollar

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### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, January 17, 1989 Central Bank official rates

U.S. dollar Pound Sterling Deutschemark Swiss franc	652.0 1080.1 384.5 431.5	Sell 658.0 1090.9 388.3 435.8	French franc Japanese yen (for 100) Dutch guilder Swedish crown Italian tira (for 100)	113.1 448.1 340.9 105.8 51.6	114.2 452.6 344.3 106.9 52.1
SAISS HAIR	4317	433.6	Belgian franc (for 10)	183.5	185.3

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One U.S. dollar

One Sterling

1.6450/60 1.1645/55 1.6963/70 1.9125/35 1.5105/15 35.52/57 5.7675/7725 1263/1264 145.55/65 6.1600/50 6.5310/60

6.5640/90 410.60/411.10

One ounce of gold

Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns U.S. dollars

### **World Stock Market**

By Reuters

SYDNEY — The Australian market tracked the volatile Tokyo exchange. The all Ordinaries Index ended up 7.7 at 1,628.8. TOKYO — Late session unwinding by arbitrageurs yanked the Nikkei Index off its highs to end down 28.22 at 36,821.14. HONG KONG — An early surge was followed by profit taking. The Hang Seng Index ended 1.4 lower at 1270.39. SINGAPORE - Share prices closed off their highs. The Straits Times Index gained 20.54 to 1,532.04.

BOMBAY — Fears of heavy taxes under the new government produced heavy selling for the third day in a row. FRANKFURT - A technical recovery fizzled. The Dax Index closed at 1,802.48, up 13.8. ZURICH — Swiss shares came off their early highs on profit

taking. The SPI index closed four points firmer at 1,126.5. PARIS --- Business focused on special situation stocks and prices ended close to the day's highs in a partly technical recovery. The CAC-40 index gained 17.93 to 1,953.14.

LONDON — Shares edged back from early losses after Wall Street steadied. The FISE index closed at 2,373.9, up 24.8. NEW YORK — A wider trade gap and disappointing IBM earnings produced only a short-lived fall. At 1727 GMT the Dow Jones Industrial were up 10 points to 2,703.5.

## resumes live-sheep exports to S. Arabia

CANBERRA (R) — Australia shipped 64,500 sheep to Saudi Arabia Wednesday, resuming a lucrative trade suspended for five months after a row over animal health.

The sheepcarrier Cormo Express left Adelaide on an 18-day voyage with the first shipment since Australia cut the trade in August after five shiploads totalling 300,000 sheep were rejected. Saudi health authorities said at the time that some of the sheep were diseased with blue tongue and sheep pox, allegations denied by Australia because the diseases are not present in its commercial

Saudi Arabia has traditionally taken half the seven million live sheep, worth 230 million dollars (\$173 million), Australia normally ships to the Middle East each

The 300,000 rejects were diverted and sold to other Middle East countries, but the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation suspended further shipments to Saudi Arabia pending government talks.

Contacts included a letter in November from Prime Minister Bob Hawke to King Fahd, who this week responded.

An Australian government spokesman Wednesday declined to disclose the Sandi letter's contents, but said "they... tend to affirm what is now taking place.

To try to allay Saudi concerns, Australia has placed a government veterinary officer aboard the Corma Express to monitor the health of the sheep on board.

The company chartering the vessel is part of the giant Eldes IXL brewing and agribusiness conglomerate and spokesman Michael o'Brien said the 12,000 tonne ship was the world's largest and most technologically adv anced sheep carrier.

of the setback on the Boeing

aircraft strike, which severely cut

into exports of expensive com-

disheartened by the deficit figure.

Many had been looking for a

slight improvement following a

sharp deterioration in October.

The October trade deficit total-

led \$10.25 billion. Both October

and November represented the

worst performance since a \$10.8

billion deficit in December 1988.

But private analysts were still

mercial airliners.

Australian meat and livestock said if there was no problem with That meeting was their first the shipment, imported by the Al Comecon session since deep political and economic changes swept Murkairish group, a second shipment would follow next month. through Eastern Europe.

## African economies continue retreating

ADDIS ABABA (R) - African economies improved slightly in 1989 but failed to keep up with population growth and on average Africans became worse off, the continent's top economist said Monday.

Adebayo Adedeji, head of the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, called on creditors to slash the continent's \$250 billion foreign debt bill by at least half and allow a 10-year moratorium on repayments to support economic recovery.

"The international community must see 1990 as a year of opportunity to consolidate their cooperation with Africa, to ensure a stunning economic turnaround which leads to self sustained growth," Adedeji declared.

The debt trap was one of three "albatrosses" around African necks during 1989, allowing gross domestic product (GDP) to grow by only 2.9 per cent, he said in his annual state of the continent mes-

This exceeded the previous year's 2.4 per cent growth but lagged behind Africa's population growth rate of more than three per cent, meaning per capital GDP fell 0.3 per cent after

dropping 0.7 per cent in 1988. "In 1989, as in previous years, poor demand for export commodities, the debt trap and the harsh and rigid conditionalities of orthodox structural adjustment programmes constituted the three major albatrosses around the necks of the already fragile African economies," Adedeji said.

The fact that most of Africa enjoyed unusually good weather, boosting farm output by 3.1 per cent after 2.8 per cent in 1988, underscored the underlying fragility of its economies, he added.

Adedeji said a słump in world coffee and cocoa prices was hard on producers. Africa lost nearly \$250 million in export revenue since the international coffee ex-

port quota system collapsed last July and its 25 coffee exporting nations could lose another \$1.5 billion in 1990.

Mineral performance, helped by firm oil prices, was mixed in 1989, showing growth of 2.4 per cent after 3.2 per cent in 1988. Manufacturing growth improved to 4.9 per cent from 4.3 per cent in 1988, but remained a "frustrated victim and helpless prisoner to a number of structural

weaknesses and limitations." Stronger prices for oil and other minerals contributed to a slightly brighter trade picture overall with the deficit falling to around \$9 billion from \$11.3 billion in 1988.

Exports rose to \$67 billion in 1989 from \$57.7 billion in 1988 while imports rose to \$76 billion from \$69 billion.

But too much money was going into debt repayments, Adedeji said, noting this gobbled up 40 per cent of 1989 export income.

Foreign debt now equalled 39 per cent of total GDP, he said. Urging rich countries to act to ease the debt burden, he said such relief should not be linked to implementation of orthodox structural adjustment reforms.

Adedeji painted two scenarios for 1990, which he said would result either in another slip in per capita GDP of 0.2 per cent or a 1.3 per cent rise.

- With no improvement in external factors, reflecting further poor demand for Africa's commodity exports, its economy could grow three per cent, with agricultural output rising four per. cent, mining two per cent and manufacturing five per cent.

- With an improvement in external factors, including debt relief, the economy could grow. 4.5 per cent, with farm output expanding at a similar rate, mining by 2.5 per cent and manufacturing by six per cent.

BEIJING (AP) — The Communist Party Tuesday unveiled a three-year austerity plan that officials concede will shut some nonstate enterprises and which appears to keep market-oriented reforms on hold.

The party document on "economic readjustment" acknowledges that "some workers will become unemployed" and some factories, in particular smaller non-state enterprises, will be closed during the drive.

The policy paper, as reported by the official Xinhua news agency, does not mention plans to intorduce market-oriented reforms during the readjustment

Reforms have effectively been put on hold since austerity policies were adopted in 1988, and particularly after the onster last June of reformist party leader Zhao Ziyang, who was blamed for the crushed pro-democracy movement.

The 39-point document was prepared for a meeting of the party central committee last November and made public Tuesday.

It reflects a drive by the current conservating leadership to revive centralised economic controls, which were eased during the previous 10 years of reform, and give priority to development of large, state-run industries.

The document said the task of restoring order to the economy, began in mid-1988, will take three years or more, during which time the nation's spending habits must be sharply curtailed.

The party, which was moving under ousted general secretary Zhao toward a policy of noninterference in economic affaires,

must enhance its leading role in guiding the economy, the document said. It said the nation's economic

goals are to bring the inflation rate under 10 per cent a vear. keep annual growth of gross national product to a manageablefive-six per cent, balance the budget and wipe out financial

Steps must also be taken to overcome "The serious confusion in the realms of production, construction, circulation and distribution." It said.

China achieved some of those goals in 1989, dropping inflation from a bigh of more than 30 per cent in 1988 to less than 10 per cent in the waning months of

Industrial output growth was slashed from 17.7 per cent in 1988, which severely taxed the nation's energy resources and inadequate infrastructure, to 6.8 per cent last year.

However, the government's tight credit policy and suspension of thousands of building projects have led to widespread bankruptcies, plant shutdowns and a growing unemployment problem. The government has fallen further into debt because of decreased revenues and huge subsidies provided faltering state-run fac-

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A government spokesman said last week that in some cities up to seven-eight per cent of factories have stopped production because of a lack of operating funds, energy and materials.

The report said smaller township enterprises, the backbone of ecnonomic progress in rural areas during the past decade, will not be allowed to vie with large industries for raw materials.

## Israelis demand 'work and bread'

HAZOR HAGLILIT (R) — Hundreds of angry Israelis, shouting "we need bread, we. need work," clashed with police Tuesday in a second straight day of protests in the north over economic hardships.

Residents of Hazor Hagilit blocked the road leading to their town to protest against the sack-

For the first 11 months of 1989.

the U.S. trade deficit ran at an

annual rate of \$11 billion, com-

pared with a deficit of \$118.53

Many economists believe that

the U.S. foreign trade deficit will

increase in 1990, reversing a two-

for President George Bush's

administration, which is counting

on continued growth in exports to

bolster the U.S. economy and

dampen demands in Congress for

The 2.7 per cent drop in U.S.

Almost half of all economic

exports left them at their lowest

growth in the past two years has

been supplied by a boom in ex-

port sales. But economists are

worried that these strong in-

creases are in danger of stalling

protectionist trade legislation.

level since last March.

This is an unsettling forecast

year trend of improvements.

billion in all of 1988.

ing of 150 workers from a factory closed by its owners — Israel's financially troubled Koor Indus-

"We want to work, we want bread, we want bread for our children," one furious protester

arrested after he hurled stones and smashed a car windscreen. Farmers in northern Israel

Dozens of demonstrators scuf-

fled with police. One was

out in 1990, in part because the

dollar was rising in value most of

last year. A stronger dollar makes

U.S. goods more expensive on

cent November decline repre-

sented a drop from an all-time

high set the previous month. Eco-

nomists said U.S. consumer de-

mand for foreign goods is show-

In addition, the United States

is growing more dependent on

foreign oil. Petroleum shipments

climbed to \$4.38 billion in

November, the highest total in six

months, as the number of barrels

imported rose two per cent to

8.42 million barrels daily and the

price climbed by 24 cents to

deficit in November was with

Japan at \$4.0 billion.

As usual, the biggest trade

ing little sign of slackening.

On the import side, the 1.4 per

overseas markets.

staged a strike for the second consecutive day. Many of the residents of 52 farming settlements stayed away from work

and kept children home from

The farmers are demanding increased government subsidies for eggs and poultry. But Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz has told them that they must diversify

and rely less on agriculture. Israel's communal farmers are saddled with multi-billion dollar

ignoring them while giving financial incentives to settlement in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, home to one million Palestinians. The farmers and factory work-

They accuse the government of

until next Monday, heeding a request by Finance Minister Shimon Peres to stop their demonstrations until he had an opportunity to deal with their financial Israel's inflation rate rose to

ers delayed further protest action

20.7 per cent last year, the highest annual figure since 1985 when an economic austerity plan brought inflation down from over 400 per cent.

## TWA sells 11 jets

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Trans World Airlines Inc. (TWA) has sold 11 Jumbo jets for \$210 million to two leasing companies in an effort to raise cash and reduce its large debt, company officials

It's the second time in less than a month that the airline has announced the sale of an asset. On Dec. 18, TWA said it planned to sell its Chicago-London route and related assets to American Airlines for \$195 million. That deal must be approved by the federal government.

The news has angered many employees who believe TWA

owner Carl Icahn is slowly dismantling the airline, which is \$2.7 billion in debt and lags behind other major carriers in capital investment.

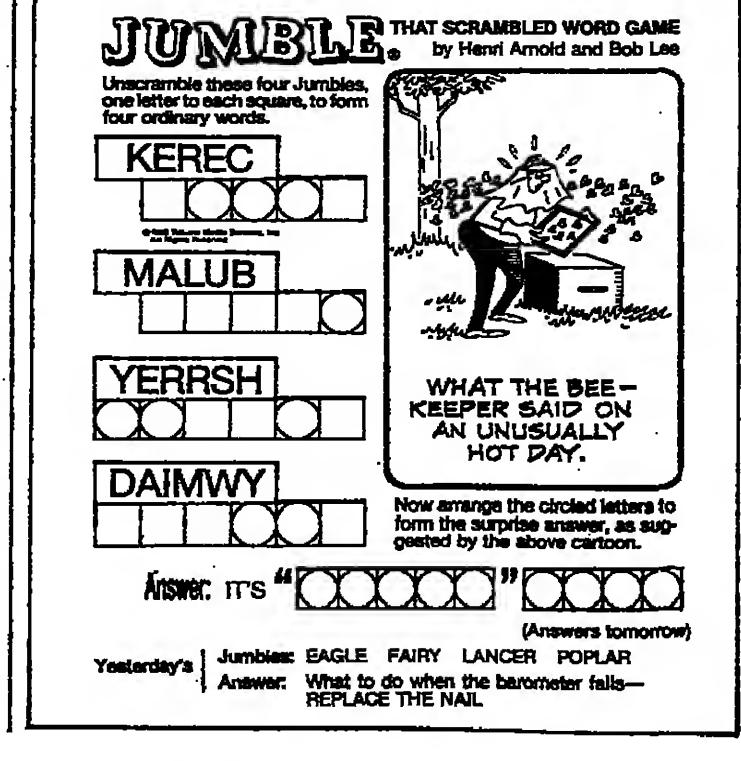
Icahn assured employees in a letter last month that he does not intend to dismantle TWA. "There is no possible way that

TWA can get stronger if it gets smaller," Kent Scott, chairman of the union's executive council in St. Louis, a major hub city for the airline, has said. But industry analysts say sell-

ing airplanes and leasing them back is quite common.

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FORECAST FOR THURSDAY JANUARY IS, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson. Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation.

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The one way to get through today's." by emphasing the lighter side of ble where comance, sociel outlets. and similar restices are concerned.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19). Household details have a good chance of being perfected now Accept an invitation with your affachment for important optside dileit.

Your home can now be made immaculate for the future. Doing something special for your strachment will pay off ing dividends. GEMINE: (May 21 to June 21) A wanderful day to invite both mea and women friends into your home. Don't upset your etlachment by expecting too much at this

MOON CRILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Entertain women triends with distinction in your home A time for you and your atrachment to organise your future more effi-

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your business affairs should be going along better than usually. Be sure now to be more than morally romantic with your loved one. VIEGO: (August 22 to September 22) One of your best of times to

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 1990

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a very good day to prepare yourself for the various and sundry conditions through which you can expand and extend your interests and horizons.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Welcome with open arms one from a distance who could become a good friend. Don't take any risks now by being excless or ignoring payments due and owing.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can have a happy social or artistic rime with an understanding friend. Put forth with considerable more intensity in your remantic relationship.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) See that you coordinate your efforts in any home project now. A woman can be considerable assistance in a business or money matter.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Get your attachment out in the world with you as much as possible. Two persons at home will aid you greafly in working out any business problems,

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Communicating with good friends now will hold you their good will and friendship. Study sources that will show you the best way to handle your money.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get rid of unnecessary things and conditions in your home with ado. You can get much cooperation now in any business matter of

importance. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Make a special point to go

make additions to or emprove ments in your home. Be out on the sown as much as possible with your attachescoi.

LINEA: (Soptember 23 to October 22) It now is your turn to entertain those special friends of whom you are especially foud. For important meening, ask men into your borne

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Accept tennual conditions that now occur at your home and enjoy them. Be understanding and help loved one with problems. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) This should be a very pleasant social time for you.

Keep letting your attachment know of your undying affection. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to langary 20) Friends now expect a great deal of you and slog's disappoint them. Ounde interests one's interests now.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) lover persons you like and who you have recently met unto your home. Be very emotional and serry with your mate.

PESCES: (February 20 to March My Don't get rattled because a bigwig will try to direct your every move. Your attachment now sees your best points and releases sup-

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation ziong with whatever good friends

want you to do now. Don't allow a strange attitude on the part of your loved one to upset things. SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

her 21). You are about to get rid of one outlet so you can start another more practical one. Don't take unexpected guests at home and suspense the family today. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 23) Friends will be your best outlet for a happy day, so see as much of them as possible. Get together with your love one and ione time friends. CAPRICORN: (December 22 10-

January 20) Do something very special to assume your attachment of your true devotion. You can now organise conditions at your residence on a much better basis. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Get financial matters compicted as soon as possible for another awaits your attention. Tension over money can exuse you

to lose interest in duties. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You will have more good times if you better organise the moments when you see your friends. A couple will now do what will make conditions easier for you and your

Teday's child: If your child were articulate and able to express themselves in a clear and concise manner on any subject that they have studied and examined. Other talents for writing, painting and other forms of self expression will allow this progeny to become known if that is their desire.

## Australian Open:

## McEnroe plays superbly to reach 3rd round

By Robert Woodward

MELBOURNE - John McEnroe, enjoying his best start to a grand slam tournament for many years, on Wednesday gave his second tennis masterclass in two days to reach the third round of the Australian Open.

Repeating his first round performance, the American number four seed conceded just four games against Alex Antonitsch. driving the Austrian to distraction with a display of touch and vision most players on the circuit can only dream of.

"If I keep playing like this I'll be difficult to beat, I just hope it keeps going," said McEnroe after his 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 victory on Centre Court. "It's a great start, I hawen't started like this in a grand slam for a while."

McEnroe's deft display, which reduced the frustrated Antonitsch to serving underarm for one point in the second set, was in sharp contrast to world number one Ivan Lendl's workmanlike demolition of Tomas Carbonell of Spain.

The Czechoslovak defending champion won 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 and realises he is somewhere off his best form. "I could always hit the ball better but I suppose as long as you're winning it doesn't matter how you hit the ball."

Steffi Graf, bidding for her third successive open title, was also below her best against American Erika de Lone, a teenager ranked 298 who achieved the rare distinction of breaking the world number one's serve twice in one

Graf, who won 6-1, 6-2, "blamed" Boris Becker for her below par performance following the West German pair's 30-minute practice session on Tuesday

"It was fun hitting with Boris, we had a good time had some good rallies and we both enjoyed it very much," she said, "You're trying a little bit harder, trying to play well and it's not too easy coming back (to the women's

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possible,

game) as maybe you're not concentrating."

Antonitsch, ranked 98th in the world, was bemused within 13 minutes of the start of his match, finding himself 5-0 down against the expressionless McEnroe.

The three-times Wimbledon champion, who has yet to win in Melbourne, appeared to amble around the court while Antonitsch raced about on fruitless errands in the hot sun. Eschewing Lendl's now-famil-

iar legionnaire's hat, McEnroe, sporting a lurid green bandana, even read Antonitsch's underarm serve and won the point to take a 5-2 lead in the second set.

Antonitsch's patience finally ran out in the first game of the third set. A service ace was called out by umpire Richard Ings, although it was fired at the line furthest from his chair.

first round for an audible obscenity, received a warning for unsportsmanlike behaviour after angrily querying the decision. One game point to McEnroe,

The Austrian, fined \$350 in the

Antonitsch hit a forehand to the baseline which looked in. But McEnroe spun round and stared hard at the lineswoman, whose arm belatedly shot out.

It was the low point of a bad day for Autonitsch who made as if to hit the ball at Ings before thinking better of it and slumping in his chair.

McEnroe's display came as a blessed relief to the sun-blasted spectators on Centre Court who had earlier sat through nearly four hours of slam-bang tennis between number 15 seed Thomas Muster and Christo van Rensburg of South Africa.

The Austrian, a semifinalist last year, eventually won 1-6, 7-5. 7-5, 2-6, 8-6, "I don't maybe have the talent but I do my best and try to do my job as good as possible." he said.

Subtlety and shade were also in

short supply on court two where 13th seed Sergi Bruguera of Spain was beaten 6-4, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 by Sweden's Mikael Pernfors.

Both players slugged and grunted their way through a stolid diet of baseline topspin before Pernfors, urged on by a large crowd of his sun-bathing compatriots, emerged from a 38-shot rally at matchpoint to reach the third round.

"I think for the first time since the U.S. Open I felt really comfortable playing." Pernfors said later. "I decided I was going to get him tired before I got tired."

Pernfors will meet Frenchman Henri Leconte, an artist in the McEnroe would, whose recovery from six months out with a back



John McEaroc

injury gathered pace with a 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 defeat of Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

1988 I abuse Marke Services .a. WEEKLY BRIDGE OUIZ

Q.1-Both vulnerable, as South you

C3762 AK1632 4A The bidding has proceeded: South West North East P \$35 4 + Pass

What action do you take?

O.2—Both vulnerable, as South you **◆73** . 1042 A¥J4 **◆**AJ102 The bidding has proceeded. South West North East Pass 1 4 Pass

What do you hid now?

0.3—Both vulnerable, as South you **♦73 . 1042 ANJ4 ♣AJ108** The bidding has proceeded: West North East South Pass 1 4 Pass INT Pass Pass 2 .

you held: 4K187 K98 J652 4J53 Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond? Q.5-Neither sulnerable, as South

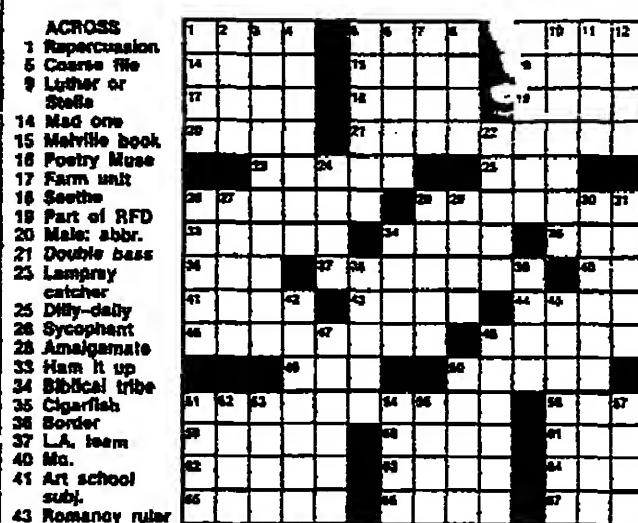
Q.4-Neither vulnerable, as South

What action do you take?

you hold: + K107 . K98 J652 + J53 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East P255 INT Pass 2 NT Pass What action do you take?

Q.6-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: Void J10753 4852 + A9852 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West What do you bid now? Look for answers on Monday

## THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Fingner



C1980 Tribune Media Serrices, Inc. An Rights Reserved Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

Grease 12 Abbr. for a Series 13 Function 22 Knack 24 Lecherous

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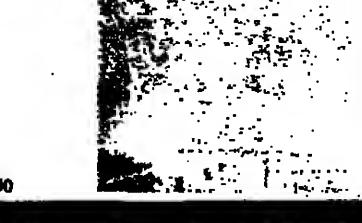
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Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

**AMERICA** 

RAGE TO KILL



# Soviets acknowledge Warsaw Pact shifts

VIENNA (AP) — A high-ranking Soviet general acknowledged Wednesday that the political changes among Moscow's East European allies would affect the Warsaw Pact military alliance.

"There will be changes in structure," said Gen. Nikolaj Chervov, head of the Directorate of the Soviet General Staff. But he said the final form of those changes had not been decided.

Chervov spoke to reporters on the second day of unprecedented talks among the top officers of 35 nations about their military poli-

. The three-week meeting ppened Tuesday with Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his Soviet counterpart, Gen. Mikhail Moiseyev, outlining the superpowers' military strategies.

Western military experts have been anxious to hear reports from East bloc military leaders, hoping to learn more about how recent political events will shape future policies of the seven-nation Warsaw Pact.

PARIS (Agencies) — The U.N.

Security Council's five permanent

members have agreed to seek a

Cambodian settlement, based on

establishing a U.N. administra-

tion in the country until free

élections and on international

peacekeepers guaranteeing

After two days of meetings, the

five countries Tuesday issued a

16-point summary of agreed prin-

ciples, including an "effective

U.N. presence" to assure internal

security for an unspecified transi-

tion period before the elections.

U.N. secretary-general should be

put in charge of U.N. activities in

Cambodia until the new elected

revernment takes office, the

Diplomats attending the talks

hailed the statement as a leap

forward in settling the Cambo-

dian conflict, following the break-

down of a 19-nation peace confer-

that all parties, including the

Chinese, want this thing ended,"

Support from China and the

Soviet Union, the backers of two

enemy sides in the Cambodian

conflict, was crucial to get the

"The most important thing is

ence in Paris last summer.

one diplomat said.

document said.

A special representative of the

security.

The United States and 15 of its allies belong to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). Chervov, speaking through an interpreter, said the Warsaw

Pact's top governing body, the Political Consultative Committee, likely will be disbanded. The panel is made up of the top Communist Party officials of the

seven nations.

The fast pace of change in those countries, he said, has led to "the multiplicity of parties." "The Communist parties are no longer leading the states," he said. "Therefore, the Political Consultative Committee will probably cease to exist of itself

and perhaps there will be another supreme body." The new one, he said, could be made up of the heads of state of

those countries. "We are still working on it," he

guerrilla coalition, and the Viet-

namese-installed government in

Phnom Penh, had previously

shied away from prosposals of

since last year's June crackdown

against pro-democracy students,

expressed concern during the

meeting about the upsurge of

we speak," said a Western diplo-

mat. "We must move fast. More

meetings are needed but this is

The accord, which appeals for

settlement between the four

Cambodian factions, will be sub-

mitted to them before being dis-

cussed again at a meeting by the

same officials in New York in

The group is expected to hold a

third round of talks in the French

capital in mid-February while

pressing for a revival of the Paris

peace conference. A senior U.S.

administration official estimated

the new process, if it continued,

"We're not talking about a

process that would take several

years, but it's clear it will take

several months," a senior U.S.

official said on condition of not

could last two to six months.

"The civil war is in progress as

China, isolated internationally

U.N. involvement.

fighting in Cambodia.

not bad going."

about two weeks.

Breakthrough accord gives

U.N. key role in Cambodia

He said the top military officers in the Warsaw Pact countries have "confirmed their states will remain true to their (alliance)

Western officials have been looking for hints of a potential weakening in the East bloc nations' ties to the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet-led military alliance.

Sir David Craig, chief of the British Defence Staff, said Tuesday that he did not see signs of a collapse in the Warsaw Pact alliance.

"Clearly, I think they would all recognise amongst the seven of them that there are changes afoot," he said. "But to talk about the breakup of the (pact) was not the impression I was left with today."

Bulgaria's Gen. Christo Dobrev said Tuesday that his government was cutting troops, arms and defence spending to underscore its defensive posture.

Gen. Lee Butler of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff said Dobrev's remarks were an "early indication of where force structure might be going within the non-Soviet Warsaw Pact countries."

The Vietnamese-backed gov-

ernment of Premier Hun Sen and

the three guerrilia factions allied

in an uneasy coalition all have

indicated support for a major

Tuesday's statement suggested

"supreme national council"

It was not clear who would

might be set up as "the repository

of Cambodian sovereignty during

serve on such a council or what

specific powers it might yield.

The document made no direct

mention of the Cambodian gov-

ernment, the Khmer Rouge re-

bels fighting it or Prince Noro-

dom Sibanouk, leader of a three-

party guerrilla coalition that in-

It said the five U.N. Security

Council members would "wel-

come an early resumption of a

constructive dialogue among the

Cambodian actions" and said the

transition process "should not be

dominated by any one of them."

ing said there was an "urgent

need to speed up diplomatic

efforts" to bring about a settle-

ment. In a reference to Viet-

The five countries in the meet-

cludes the Khmer Rouge.

the transition process."

on the battlefield.

Also on Tuesday, Gen Mikhail Moiseyev, the Soviet Union's top military officer, said at the meeting that the Kremlin would continue to make sharp cuts in troops, weapons and spending as part of plans to reshape its defence policy.
The West contends the Soviets'

military might could seize and hold foreign territory in time of war. NATO contends its forces are the minimum necessary to defend against an attack. Soviet President Mikhail Gor-

bachev announced in December 1988 plans to reduce the Soviet army by 500,000 troops and reduce conventional, or non-nuclear, arms substantially. Moiseyev said half the reduc-

tious were carried out last year and the rest will be completed in

As of Jan. 1, he said, Soviet armed forces were down by 265,000. He said 9,320 tanks, more than 5,050 artillery systems and 835 warplanes have been reduced in Europe.

The military budget, he said. was cut by 8.2 per cent last year and will be pared by more than 14 per cent in the next two years.

The five delegation heads met

with French Foreign Minister Ro-

land dumas at the conclusion of

Dumas opened the discussions

Monday by saying the five coun-

tries had a special responsibility

to make sure the Khmer Rouge

the strongest of three rebe

groups fighting Cambodia's Viet-

namese-backed government, nev-

er return to power in Cambodia.

Minister Ali Alatas said Monday

his talks with all four Cambodian

factions found no objections to

discussing Australia's proposal

for an interim U.N. government.

Son Sann, a former prime

minister who heads the non-Com-

munist Khmer People's National

Liberation Front, wrote in an

that he would approve a U.N.

U.N. peacekeeping force to halt

Son Sann said the three-party

guerrilla coalition should retain

Cambodia's seat in the United

Nations during the transition

period, but should refrain from

participation in debates or votes.

Other proposals have called for

interim administration and

all military operations.

article in Tuesday's editions of '

In Jakarta, Indonesian Foreign

the talks Tuesday evening.



Philippine investigators question two dissidents acrested in connection with inst month's failed comp

## Philippine forces capture top leader of aborted coup

MANILA, (Agencies) — Philippine security forces captured one of the top leaders of last month's failed army coup after cornering him before dawn Wednesday at his Manila hideout. He was the second rebel officer to be seized in four days.

Discharged navy lieutenant commander Jaime Lucas, listed as number four in the hierarchy of the country's most wanted rebel officers, broke a leg when he jumped out of a second floor window as constabulary troops surrounded his hideout, a military spokesman said.

"We want reforms in government. In this bureaucracy, it is the small people who suffer...l have no regrets," the 45-year-old Lucas, on crutches and with his left foot bandaged, told reporters after his capture.

Lucas was the second coup leader to be captured in four days and the third to fall into government hands since the military announced a bounty of 11.5 million pesos (\$510,000) for the capture of top officers who nearly toppled President Corazon Aguino in the december rebel-

Lucas, with a price of one

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The

country's largest anti-apartheid

coalition, forced to operate cov-

ertly since its banning two years

ago, announced Wednesday that

it was resuming full-scale, above-

ground operations as a challenge

members, said they would reopen

offices across the country and

begin planning for a national con-

ing period ahead of us, we have

decided to claim our rights to

engage in open opposition activ-

ity," Murphy Morobe, one of the

coalition's chief spokesmen, said

at a news conference. "We owe it

to our people that the leadership

of our movement is openly avail-

able at this crucial moment in the

Morobe also said a delegation

of 22 leaders of the front planned

to meet soon with Nelson Mande-

la, jailed leader of the African

National Congress (ANC) move-

ment. Mandela is expected to be

"In what we see as a challeng-

ference in April.

Senior leaders of the United

million pesos (\$44,500) on his head, had been in hiding for more than two years after taking part in another coup attempt on Aug.

Aquino has quelled six army rebellions in her four years in

On Wednesday Aquino ordered the suspension of a provincial governor for his alleged role in December's failed coup

Also Wednesday, opposition Senator Juan Ponce enrile appeared before a government commission to dispute administration claims that rebel soldiers were at his home on the first day of the coup attempt, linking him with the rebellion.

Presidential spokesman Lourdes Sytangco said Aquino ordered Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos and Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos to serve the suspension order on Rodolfo Aguinaldo, governor of Cagayan province.

The move came one day after the supreme court overturned a local court's order blocking the 60-day suspension for Aguinaldo ordered by the government last

challenges Pretoria regime

after nearly 28 years in prison.

The United Democratic Front.

which shares the ANC's goal of

creating a non-racial democracy

in South Africa, was established

in 1983 to mobilise resistance to a

new constitution that entrenched

the exclusion of the black major-

Many leaders of the organisa-

tion were detained for two to

three years after a nationwide

state of emergency was declared

in June 1986. In February 1988,

the government listed the front

among 17 oranisations prohibited

and at some levels disorganised

us," said Azhar Cachalia, a mem-

ber of the front's executive com-

mittee. "But the main purpose of

the emergency, to smash the

UDF, has failed. We are prob-

ably stronger now than we have

He said the decision to resume

overt operations was intended as

a challenge to President F.W. de

Klerk, who since taking office in

August has eased restrictions on

anti-government protests and in-

"The emergency has hurt us

in engaging in any activities.

ity from parliament.

Sytangeo said the court ruling removed the last legal obstacle to Aguinaldo's suspension. During the failed coup from

Dec. 1-9, Aguinaldo allegedly told a Manila radio station that he was sending tanks and artillery to the capital to support the rebel Agninaldo, a former lieutenant

colonel, was implicated but never charged in an August 1987 coup attempt. He resigned from the armed forces and was elected governor in January 1988. After leaving the military,

Aguinaldo Organised a private army to fight communist rebels. He has threatened to lead a "people power" uprising if the government tries to enforce his suspen-Enrile, meanwhile, produced

18 security guards from his neighbourhood who testified that they saw no rebel soldiers in the area on the day the coup attempt was launched.

The National Bureau of Investigation has recommended that Eurile be charged with rebellion. It said three waiters had stated they saw a rebel leader, Gregorio Honasan, at the senator's home Dec. 1.

ate a new constitution that would

extend some form of political

way, beginning to test his inten-

tions and his commitment to a

new South Africa," Cachalia

set for the meeting between front

leaders and Mandela, who has

been conferring at his prison resi-

dence with government officials

and prominent anti-apartheid

"We believe he is in a histor-

ically unique position that can

open up new possibilities and

opportunities which can only adv-

Morobe said the front and the

African National Congress agree

on the pre-conditions needed be-

fore the two organisations will

enter negotiations with the gov-

Mandela and other political pris-

oners, lifting the state of emegen-

cy, unbanning the ANC and

other opposition groups, remov-

ing soldiers from black townships

They include the release of

ance the cause of liberation,"

Morobe said no date had been

"We are now, in a concrete

rights to blacks.

activists.

Morobe said.

emment.

# NEW YORK (AP) - Pierre-

\$50m sought

for Renoir work

Auguste Renoir's "Au moulin de la Galette" will be offered at a May 16 auction for an estimated \$40 million to \$50 million, Sotheby's announced. The painting, executed in 1876, shows an outdoor dance hall frequented by. the artist. It has been in the private collection of Mr. and Mrs. John Hay Whitney for 60 years. A larger version of the work is currently in the Musee d'Orsay in Paris. It is believed one was painted at the scene and the other at Renoir's studio - but no one, knows which is which. Sotheby's will take this version to Paris for a comparison before the New York

### Car-free Sunday to combat smog

MILAN (AP) — The Milan city council has decided to ban driving in the entire metropolitan area this Sunday if a high level of pollutants from heavy smog did not decrease before then. Traffic will be banned from the northern city and 30 suburbs between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Sunday, the council ruled. The area is home to three million people. Other measures will be applied this week to combat the pollution that has clouded the city. For example, large trucks will be prevented from stopping in the city, and smaller trucks will not be able to load and unload on Saturday, Italian media reported. Pollution Tuesday surpassed the first alarm level of 10 microgrammes of carbon dioxide per cubic metre at nearly all smog control stations in the Milan area, said Roberto Gualdi of the local health services. At that level, ill or elderly people are advised to be cautious about going out.

### Scuffle over AIDS drug profits

LONDON (AP) - A scuffle broke out Tuesday at the annual shareholders meeting of Wellcome Plc when a shareholder questioned profits being made on a drug used to treat AIDS. Rob-Archer, of Edinburgh, scuffled the conservative daily Le Figaro Largest anti-apartheid group with other shareholders when he tried to grab a microphone to speak to Wellcome's chairman. Sir Alfred Shepperd. Security guards quickly moved in. Archer, a member of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, complained that the price of Wellcome's drug Retrovir, also known as AZT, was too high and it made treatment for individuals very expensive. He also asked why the Wellcome company's board refused to talk to organisations involved with AIDS. 'Last year Sir Alfred promised a meeting then reneged," Archer said.

### 'Baby boom' 9 months after Hugo

GASTONIA, North Carolina (AP) — Gaston County is due for. a baby boom in June and early July — about nine months after Hurricane Hugo hit, doctors say. The storm knocked out power and essentially shut down the county when it struck in September. "Any time there is a natural disaster of snowstorm or anything that keeps people at their homes, this happens," said Deborah Hudson, business manager for Gaston Gynecology and Obstetrics, one of two prenatal centresin the county. By mid-January, the centre already surpassed the number of new patients that showed up in December. Hudson expects to have 90 to 100 new patients this month, comparedwith about 50 for a normal January. Many of the expecting mothers are due in early summer. "That's a pretty good indication that Hugo had something to do with," she said.

### namese troops, whose pullout declaring the Cambodian seat plan, initially proposed by Aubeing identified. to the government. The official said many details stralia, off the ground. was announced last September, it vacant until free elections are .Both the Chinese-backed said the "complete withdrawal of needed to be worked out and all Democratic Front (UDF), repreforeign forces must be verified Khmer Rouge, the dominant the Cambodian parties would The guerrilla coalition has held senting more than 600 organisamilitary group in a three-party by" the United Nations. Cambodia's U.N. seat since 1982. have to give up an effort to win tions with more than two-million

Stoltenberg begins UNHCR work GENEVA (AP) — Thorvald Soltenberg, a former Norwegian foreign minister and ambassador to the United Nations, has started work as the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), heading an agency responsible for 15 million refugees worldwide. Spokesman Raymond Hall said Stoltenberg arrived in Geneva

Monday. He was elected for a four-year term by the U.N. General Assembly on Nov. 20 to replace Jean-Pierre Hocke, who resigned following allegations he had misused funds. The 58-year old Norwegian

takes over as head of the agency at a time when it is struggling with an unprecedented financial crisis and ever increasing number of "It's no joke to lead an orga-

nisation that is supposed to help 15 million people in such a difficult time and with an extremely tight budget. Still, my old dream has been fulfilled," Stoltenberg said in an interview published Tuesday in the Norwegian news-

paper Aftenposten.

Hall said the worldwide refugee population rose by about 700,000 last year, swelled by a hage influx into Ethiopia of people fleeing the conflict in neighbouring Somalia and Sudan, and by continuing mass movements of refugees from Mozambique into Malawi in southern Africa. According to UNHCR figures

there are now more than one million refugees in the Horn of Africa and another one million in the south of the continent. Afghans constitute the largest

refugee population, numbering some 5.5 million in Pakistan and Iran, Hall said about 60,000 Afghans left their troubled home-

land last year where fighting continued after the last Soviet troops left the country in February.

Despite the UNHCR's growing responsibilities, it is trying to implement an austerity package to cut a \$40 million deficit carried over from 1989.

"The most important thing about the job, aside from raising more money, may be to contribute to improving the political climate so that refugees can return home," Stoltenberg said in the newspaper interview.

Under a programme agreed by the UNHCR executive committee last October, expenditure on general programmes will be limited to \$190 million in the first haif of this year. A special meeting of the executive committee at the end of May will decide on spending for the rest of 1989.

Hocke, Stoltenberg Swiss predecessor, had proposed a general budget of \$414 million for 1990. He resigned following allegations that he misused a special educational fund financed by Denmark and Sweden to upgrade air tickets from business class, authorised by

the United Nations, to first class. Stoltenberg held a number of high government posts in Norway and served as foreign minister from March 1987 antil Gro Harem Brundtland's Labour Party government resigned last October. He took up the U.N. ambassadorship in New York.

A UNHCR statement said Stoltenberg had appointed Douglas Stafford, of the United States, as deputy high commissioner for refugees. Stafford was formerly in charge of finance and administration at the U.N. Development Programme in New York.

### released in the coming weeks vited black leaders to help negotiand ending political trials. Singh orders resignation of all Indian state governors

government has ordered the mass resignation of governors of the this week to resign. country's 25 states, the Interior Ministry said Wednesday.

ordered by Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh who ousted Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party in November elections, accusing it of corruption.

some changes have to be made where there were political appointments by the then ruling party," a Home (interior) Ministry spokesman said.

Governors, appointed by the

national government in New Dethi, are mainly limited to a ceremonial role but can assume executive power if there is a crisis in the elected state assemblies.

ernment would probably reap-

ataraman had asked all of them As the resignations streamed

into Rashtrapati Bhavau, the president's official New Delhi residence, Congress leaders were in conference debating how to react. Gandhi had an emergency meeting with Venkataraman Tuesday night. Congress General Secretary V.N.

Gagdil told reporters: "Those who criticised us for making political appointments now have politicised the very institution of governors."

time since Indian independence in 1947 that Congress has lost a general election. The Janata government which

took power then dismissed entire state assemblies dominated by its

had stopped short of thus partly dissent, Singh has someth to pro-

tiveness and partly because nine of the states hold assembly elections by March.

They said Singh, in office for more than six weeks, had been waiting in vain for controversial governors to volunteer their resgnations. The only one to do so was K.V.

Krishna Rao of India's only Muslim-majority state, Jammu and Kashmir, who quit Sunday. Insurgents demanding independence or secession to neighbouring Pakistan had paralysed his admi-Bhabani Sen Gupta of New

Delhi's Centre for Political Research said: 'This government didn't want to make (Congress)

whether the assemblies should be in power. But the people don't

point many of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which the image of point many of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which is a property of the construction of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which is a section in the construction of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which is a property to the construction of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which is a property to the construction of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which is a property to the construction of the government but to avoid allegations of vindica which is a property to the construction of the government but the construction of the government but the construction of the con

## IRA suspect claims link to Thatcher blast

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida (AP) — A suspected Irish Republican Army (IRA) member bragged that his group had conmections to a 1984 bombing attempt against British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, according to documents released Toesday. The statement was attributed

to Kevin McKinley, 33, one of four suspected IRA members arrested after they allegedly bought an anti-aircraft missile and other weapons from federal nincover agents last week. The men told undercover agents they planned to use the Stinger missile against British

troops in Northern Ireland. On Tuesday, following requests by defence attorneys and prosecutors for more time to prepare the case. U.S. Magistrate Ann Vitunac postponed a bail

hearing for the men until Friday. The men, who waved and smiled at the small group of friends in court, said nothing as they were led away by U.S. mar-

According to an affidavit by special agent Stephen Barborino and U.S. customs special agent Mark Oden, McKinley said the Stinger was to be used by the provisional wing of the IRA against British helicopters in Northern Ireland.

McKinley also told agents "his people" were responsible for the Oct. 12. 1984, bombing of a hotel in Brighton, England, where Thatcher and other Conservative Party officials were holding a meeting, according to the affi-

During several meetings between Nov. 20 and Jan. 12, the suspects also said they were seek-

ing .50 caliber rifles, C-4 explosives, and grenade launchers to pierce newly developed British

The magistrate also scheduled a Jan. 26 pre-trial hearing to hold an arraignment if a grand jury indicts the men, who have been held without bond since their arrest. If no indictment is handed up, a hearing to decide the strengths of the charges will be

"All have a viable defence and it will be pursued to the highest degree," said attorney Roger Colton, who at the hearing represented defendants Kevin McKinley, 33; Seamus Moley, 30, and Joseph McColgan, 39 all Irish

Colton, however, would not give details of a possible defence. but noted that entrapment is "a

Co-defendant Sean McCann, 34, a Canadian, was represented by attorney Michael Salnick, although the final counsel for all four men has not been set. The affidavit said Moley and McCann crossed into the United States Dec. 14 from Canada at Alexandria Bay, New York. It is not certain how long McKinley

Undercover agents posing as arms dealers arrested the men Friday after Moley allegedly handed over \$47,500 for a Stinger missile, and McKinley was taken to a West Palm beach warehouse to inspect the weapon. Agents had planned to follow

and McCologan were in the

McKinley from the warehouse, but he was arrested on the spot after he discovered the Stinger did not fit in his car, officials said

# NEW DELHI (R) - India's new President Ramaswamy Venk-

ever been."

It is the first major purge

"The prime minister feels that

Such appointments had broken the tradition that governors should be "non-political figures distinguished in public life."

The spokesman said the gov-

The resignation demand was far less drastic than the purge ordered in 1977, the only other

opponents.

look like victims.". "The people will decide

decide the governors." Seeking to avoid the fate of the Janata government, which fell Political scientists said. Singh apart in two years amid internal

## Global weather

(major world cities)

AMSTERDAM ... 07 45 10 50 Cloudy BAHRAIN ...... 12 54 16 .61 Cloudy BANGKOK....... 26 79 32 90 Clear BUENOS AIRES 24 75 33 91 Clear CAPO 10 80 17 88 Cloudy 7 CHICAGO 12 38 12 54 Cloudy COPENHAGEN . 06 43 10 50 Rein FRANKFUFIT.... 09 46 08 46 Cloudy: GENEVA ...... -01 30 09 48 Cloudy HONG KONG ... 13 -55 16 61 CHOY-ISTANBUL ..... 08 37 08 46 Clear MONTHEAL DI 84 05 41 Rein-MOSCOW \_\_\_\_\_ -15 05 -15 05 Cloudy NEW YORK 04 39 13 55 Cloudy F PARIS 08 46 12 54 Cloudy ROME \_\_\_\_ -02 28 13 - 55 Clear SYONEY 15 69 23 78 Clear TOKYO ..... 00 32 07 45 Chee VIENNA 08 46 13 05 CM